

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 MARCH 1984

Lebanon

Abrogation of 17 May Agreement — The government has decided to abrogate the 17 May agreement with Israel, the cabinet secretary announced after a 5 March meeting according to Beirut radio.

Security/Political Situation — Former President Camille Sham'un and Lebanese Ba'th Party leader 'Asim Qansuh announced that a cease-fire is imminent, according to remarks cited by Beirut radio on 4 March. Sham'un, who had just met with President Amin al-Jumayyil, said they discussed the possibility of replacing the 17 May agreement with "security arrangements," while Qansuh said after talks with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam that the National Dialogue Conference will resume in Switzerland on 12 March.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Elie Salim met separately with Khaddam and Lebanese opposition leaders in Damascus for further talks on the 17 May agreement and to "clarify some points" raised in Salim's earlier visit to Saudi Arabia, Beirut radio noted. Citing "official sources," the radio said Salim and the Syrians reached understanding on "all pending issues in a reasonable and sound way." The Lebanese opposition leaders withdrew a deadline they had set for the abrogation of the agreement with Israel and, after a meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Amal Movement and Progressive Socialist Party leaders Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, Birri told reporters that agreement was reached on a "constitutional formula" for the abrogation of the agreement, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

Jerusalem radio announced that Lebanon informed Israel of its intention to abrogate the accord and proposed instead to discuss security arrangements for southern Lebanon. Although Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office said Israel adheres to the 17 May agreement and is not discussing any substitute, Interior Minister Yosef Burg said in remarks broadcast by the radio that Israel's need for security arrangements is more important than a "piece of paper." An official Lebanese source cited by Beirut radio denied that Lebanon had asked Israel to negotiate an agreement on security arrangements, asserting that the Israeli report "is not accurate and Lebanon has not asked this officially."

Commenting on the results of the Al-Asad-Al-Jumayyil summit, Damascus radio warned "hostile" forces who are trying to "cast doubts" on the results of the talks that they are wasting their time in attempting to prevent the "inevitable collapse" and "complete cancellation" of the agreement with Israel. The radio, which has ceased branding Al-Jumayyil a "Phalangist" president, asserted that the results of the talks will soon become apparent "in the form of frank and definite measures."

French Withdrawal — During his current visit to Lebanon, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson announced that the withdrawal of the French force from Beirut is imminent, KUNA reported citing an "informed source," but Beirut radio quoted the minister as saying that no final decision had been reached yet.

Iran-Iraq War

Although Iraq did recently "raid" Khark Island, it failed to accomplish anything, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in a 4 March interview on Tehran radio. In the past, Iraq "repeatedly" fired missiles at the island and dropped bombs that resulted in "limited successes," he admitted. However, should Iraq manage to deal a "severe blow" to Iranian oil exports, Iran will be the one carry out threats, such as closing the Strait of Hormuz, he warned. The consequences must then be borne not only by Iraq but by the USSR, France, and the United States, which supply Iraq with money and missiles. Should this "final weapon" be employed and the United States confines itself to threats, the Strait of Hormuz would only remain closed until Khark Island is reconstructed, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said. However, if the United States tries to intervene, Iran has "contingency plans" to confront it.

Earlier, an Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement reported by INA on 2 March, reaffirmed Iraq's determination to strike at any naval "target" approaching Khark or any other Iranian port. However, Iraq will not now strike at the island's loading facilities in hopes that Iran will give Iraq the same opportunity to use its ports and the Arab Gulf. Iraq will nevertheless continue to tighten its "siege" of the island and "intensify" its strikes against the island and Iranian ports, the spokesman added. These strikes will also be extended to include blows against the loading facilities should Iran insist on pursuing its policy of aggression, the spokesman warned.

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, in speeches broadcast by Tehran radio on 3 and 4 March, emphasized the importance of propaganda and said it was an issue which should be given top priority. Iran must exert maximum effort to extend its propaganda, particularly abroad, since most of the world's mass media are aimed against Iran, and those countries not actively opposing Iran are keeping silent.

Regarding those individuals who desire peace negotiations with Iraq's Saddam Husayn, Khomeyni emphasized that such an outlook is "incomplete" at the present time. If Iran sits with Saddam now it will be an act against the dignity of Islam and human honor, because peace with a person who will later "stab us in the back harder" is not an honorable and wise peace.

Iran claimed continued advances into Iraqi territory over the weekend, smashing one Iraqi brigade and partially destroying two others in the process, Tehran radio reported on 3 March. Another Iraqi plane was shot down on 4 March, bringing to 13 the total number downed since the start of the Khaybar operation on 21 February, IRNA announced. Eleven Iraqi helicopters have also been destroyed during this period, IRNA added. An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement to INA, denied that any Iraqi aircraft were downed. According to the military communique carried by Baghdad radio on 4 March, all aircraft returned safely to base after inflicting losses in men and equipment.

Iraq will be forced to use "new weapons and methods" when necessary and at the proper time, INA reported citing *ATH-THAWRAH* for 3 March. The paper also said that Iran recently executed 25 Iranians of various military ranks in the wake of Iranian military failures east of Basra.

In another development, Iranian Foreign Ministry officials discussed the situation in the region with Syrian President al-Asad in Damascus, according to Damascus radio. The Syrian president also conveyed a reply message to his Iranian counterpart.

Israel

Security forces imposed a news blackout on their investigation into the shooting incident involving a bus in the Ramallah District on 4 March during which at least four Arab workers were wounded, Jerusalem radio reported. The Terror Against Terror (TNT) organization later claimed responsibility for the "ambush" in an anonymous call which warned that the attack was "just the beginning," the radio added. Meanwhile, Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon, in remarks reported by IDF Radio on 4 March, stated that if Nabulus becomes a center for terrorism it may be necessary for Israel to "shell" it. The government, Sharon said, is increasingly giving in to the United States without pressure or resistance, Jerusalem radio added. This can be seen in the "tacit agreement" between the United States and Israel to freeze the establishment of new settlements, Sharon pointed out.

In another development, Israel has "changed its mind" about opposing the formation of a Jordanian rapid deployment force with U.S. assistance in light of a U.S. promise not to supply the force with advanced weapons and U.S. affirmation that the force would not be directed against Israel but would deal with crises in the Gulf region, Jerusalem's Arabic service said.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat received an "important" message from Soviet leaders via the Soviet ambassador to Tunis concerning current developments in the Middle East, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported on 4 March.

Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, in remarks cited by KUNA on 3 March, said that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will visit Moscow "shortly" to urge the USSR to renew its call for an international conference to discuss Palestine. The delegation will also visit a number of European countries, 'Abbas added. Commenting on the recently concluded talks between 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn, 'Abbas said that no "secret decision" had been produced by the talks, although agreement had been reached to continue consultations, KUNA reported. There is no Palestinian or Jordanian objection if Syria wants to join the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue as this would "strengthen" the Arab stand, 'Abbas added.

The Fatah Central Committee is scheduled to convene on 5 March in Tunis to review the results of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks and discuss a number of topics related to the PNC, according to a Palestinian source cited by KUNA.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in a 2 March speech carried by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, announced his belief in the existence of a "reactionary force" within the popular conferences which must be "purged" to prevent it from exercising any authority with the masses. These "friends of America" in the popular conferences are the ones responsible for opposing military training for women, he added.

In another development, the existence of an opposition front to Al-Qadhdhafi's regime has been "confirmed" by transmissions from a new radio calling itself "the Voice of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya," MENA reported on 3 March.

Syria

Geydar Aliyev, first deputy premier of the USSR, will visit Syria in the first half of March, Damascus radio announced. The visit had earlier been postponed by "mutual agreement" following Yuriy Andropov's death.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Jordanian-Palestinian Delegation To Visit USSR*JN041103 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Mar 84 p 1, 23*

[Text] Amman — A responsible source has stated that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will soon visit the Soviet Union to explain the joint Jordanian-Palestinian point of view to the Soviet leaders in the light of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks that ended last Thursday, 1 March. The source added that the joint political delegation will then follow up its move in the European arena to win the support of world opinion to the Palestinian cause, and to activate the possibility of convening an international conference for settling the Middle East problem.

Further Details*LD031238 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1155 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Excerpt] Doha, 3 Mar (KUNA) — PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas was quoted here today as saying that a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation will visit Moscow shortly to urge the USSR to renew its call for an international conference for solving the Palestine question. The former Soviet leader, the late Leonid Brezhnev, had called for holding such a conference to be attended by all parties to the conflict in the Middle East, including Israel and the PLO.

Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, arrived in Qatar yesterday on a tour of the Gulf countries to acquaint leaders with the results of the summit conference between 'Arafat and King Husayn. 'Abbas was quoted by the Qatari paper *AR-RAYAH* as saying that the delegation to visit Moscow will also visit a number of other European countries.

The delegation will include Tahir al-Masri, the Jordanian foreign minister.

'Arafat Receives 'Important Message' From USSR*LD041317 Algiers APS in English 1223 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Tunis, 04/03/84 (APS) — Yasir 'Arafat chairman of PLO Executive Committee received "an important message" from the Soviet leaders concerning latest developments in the Middle-East, Wafa news agency said. The message the agency said was transmitted to the Palestinian leader by the Soviet ambassador to Tunis.

Further Details*JN041625 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a message from the Soviet leaders. Our radio correspondent described this message as important, and said: Brother leader Abu 'Ammar received the message when he received the Soviet ambassador in Tunis yesterday. He added that the message deals with the latest developments of the Palestine question on the various levels, in addition to the current developments in the Arab region.

PLO Official Welcomes Syria in PLO-Jordan Talks*GF041220 Doha QNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Mar (QNA) — Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee member, has said that the PLO welcomes Syria's joining the Jordanian-PLO dialogue. He said that the two sides will not object if Syria wants the talks to be Syrian-Jordanian-Palestinian for this will strengthen the Arab stand. Mahmud 'Abbas reaffirmed the PLO's readiness to redress relations with Syria. He said that the PLO wants balanced relations.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA*, published today, Abu Mazin denied that secret decisions were made during the talks between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat in Amman last week. He said that the talks were held on the basis of the resolutions of the Fes summit conference and the PNC and not on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 242, the Reagan plan, or any other plan.

Palestinian sources in Kuwait asserted today that there has been a relaxation in Palestinian-Syrian relations recently, although there are issues that still remain unresolved. Citing these sources *AL-QABAS* reports that Syria has said that it is prepared to receive the members of Fatah Central Committee, including Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, despite the fact that he was asked to leave Syria last summer.

'Arafat, Iraq's Husayn Discuss Gulf War Situation*GF041102 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] The Palestinian News Agency Wafa has said that a telephone contact was made yesterday evening between Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, during which the situation on the Iraqi front with Iran was reviewed. The agency said that President Saddam Husayn briefed Mr 'Arafat on the details of the good and comforting situation and informed him that none of the Iranian offensives accomplished any of their goals in Iraqi territory. Meanwhile, Mr 'Arafat received a message from the Soviet leadership described by Wafa as important and as dealing with the latest developments in the Middle East region.

'Arafat Receives Afro-Asian Delegation 3 Mar*JN041726 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met in Tunis yesterday with Brother Ahmad Hamrush, secretary of the Egyptian Afro-Asian solidarity committee; and Nuri 'Abd ar-Razzaq, secretary general of the Solidarity Committee With the Afro-Asian Peoples. During the meeting, which lasted 2 and 1/2 hours, the two sides reviewed the preparation for holding the great conference in solidarity with the Palestinian people and the PLO, which is scheduled to be held in Cairo on 30 March. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar stressed the importance of holding the conference and mobilizing all efforts and capabilities to guaran-

tee large-scale international participation. He expressed the PLO's support for this conference and stressed that the PLO will spare no effort in making it succeed.

Details of 'Arafat-West Bank Delegation Meeting

PM050856 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic

1 Mar 84 p 2

[Arafat Hijazi report: "What went on Between 'Arafat and the West Bank Delegation"]

[Text] Amman — The meeting between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the largest delegation representing West Bank inhabitants he has received since the Israeli occupation in 1967 lasted 2 hours. Although the details of the meeting between Abu 'Ammar and the West Bank personalities, who submitted to him a memo reflecting the views of the majority of the factions in the occupied territories, have not yet been made public, what the delegation said to the PLO leader was much more and more serious than what the memo contained. Also, what Abu 'Ammar said to the delegation was more important than what he has said in most of his meetings with politicians or journalists.

When Anwar al-Khatib, [former] governor of Jerusalem, spoke about the gravity of the situation in Arab Jerusalem and the threat to the existence and future of its Palestinian inhabitants, Abu 'Ammar was visibly moved and almost had tears in his eyes. What do you want me to do? Abu 'Ammar asked.

All the delegates spoke about the reality of the tragic situation the occupied homeland is facing. They described how time is working in the interest of the enemy, who every day is swallowing up Arab lands and every hour is planting a fortification or a settlement. They spoke about the systematic destruction of the culture, archeological sites, Arab character, and values of Arab Jerusalem and about the plans being prepared to destroy the culture and landmarks of the second Arab city, Hebron, by building a Zionist city in its midst.

The delegates also spoke about the city planning which is aimed at confiscating Arab agricultural lands and about the water resources to which the Palestinians no longer have access. Speaking with one voice, they asserted to him that they speak on behalf of the majority of the West Bank citizens. They said that they want action and not mere slogans; they want salvation and not excuses that only lead to worsening the situation.

They said: "All attempts have failed, and our only hope for salvation is Jordanian-Palestinian cohesion. What the PLO has failed to achieve alone and what Jordan has failed to achieve alone could be achieved through joint action." They expressed their concern over the continued Arab impotence, which leaves resorting to peaceful solutions the only way out.

Abu 'Ammar spoke at length about the conspiracies aimed at liquidating the PLO and the Palestinian problem. He spoke about the champions of those conspiracies, both Arabs and non-Arabs. He said: We are here in Amman despite those who oppose peaceful solutions. We have accepted the solutions proposed by

the Fes II conference and the honorable solutions that are acceptable to us and to you. In the past we used to say that we would accept nothing short of liberation from the Mediterranean sea to the Jordan River, but our belief in just peaceful solutions has made us accept the solution of Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied during the 1967 aggression.

PLO Union Officials Meet PRC Diplomat in Tunis

GF032013 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT

3 Mar 84

[Text] Brother Abu Mahmud, director general of the PLO Popular Organization Department, met with the counsellor of the PRC Embassy in Tunis on 1 March. Brother Muhammad Abu al-Layl, deputy secretary general of the Union of Palestinian Workers; Khalid 'Abd al-Ghani, assistant secretary general for international efforts at the Union of Palestinian Workers; and Husayn ash-Shihabi, official in charge of cultural and information affairs in the General Union of Palestinian Workers were present. They discussed Palestinian and Arab developments. The PRC diplomat affirmed the PRC's firm support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

The PRC counsellor informed the Palestinian trade union delegation of the desire of the chairman of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions to hold talks with the Secretariat of the General Union of Palestinian Workers in early April in Tunis. The Palestinian delegation welcomed the meeting and thanked the PRC for its understanding of the Palestinian question and for its support for the struggle of the Palestinian people in various fields.

KUNA Interviews PLO's Ad-Dajani on Lebanon

LD021024 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0750 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat 2 Mar (KUNA) — A prominent Palestinian leader warned of possible Arab-Israeli confrontations at various levels once the 17 May agreement between Israel and Lebanon is abrogated. Ahmad ad-Dajani, PLO Executive Committee member, told KUNA in a private interview that Israel has drafted a number of plans to be implemented should the agreement be abrogated.

Ad-Dajani expects a Syrian-Israeli confrontation to occur in the Al-Biq'a' region. He said that the size of this confrontation depends on the American green light, which was previously given during the invasion of Lebanon.

He added that Israel is seriously thinking about this confrontation. However, it takes two factors into consideration, "the first, is the size of the Syrian response, and the second is the continuous drain on its forces since the invasion of Lebanon in 1982."

Ad-Dajani stressed that 1984 will be the year of the phenomenon of the abrogation of the U.S.-backed 17 May agreement. He said a series of struggles during last year proved the ability of the Arabs to challenge the imposed peace. He expects this year's confrontation to take sharp forms, characterized by confusion and contradictions among the Zionist enemy.

With regard to the American stance the Palestinian official said that election year will make President Reagan's administration a prisoner of the political line of supporting Israel, according to which the United States gave its ally, Israel, the green light to invade Lebanon. He said that this course will continue as a result of the pressure applied by Zionist groups on the contenders for the presidency.

He added that this course will continue as a result of the tense international actualities between the Soviet Union and the United States with regard to the spheres of conflict, especially in our region. Ad-Dajani expects the Israeli aggression plan to include Trans-Jordan. However, he said that the American stance is to restrain any Israeli rampage because of calculations governing American policy. He added that Israel will escalate its repression of the inhabitants of the occupied land and will throw problems in Arab Egypt's face because of the outstanding problems between them.

Replying to a question about Israel's direct stance to the abrogation by Lebanon of the 17 May agreement, Ad-Dajani replied that Israel will resort [words indistinct] the southern region and remain as far as the Al-Awali Bridge region. It will also intensify operations in Lebanon's airspace and will impose Major Haddad's militia. He added that the Israeli opposition and the government are in total agreement about this matter.

Ad-Dajani stressed the existence of an Israeli plan for aggression against Syria in the Al-Biq'a' region. Referring to Syria, he said that some Arab countries have made preparations to confront this aggression; what is required is for the others to follow suit.

Replying to a question about Europe's stance and the possibility of Europe carrying out a political initiative, Ad-Dajani replied that a European political stance is bound to the American stance. He said that the European countries build their policy with regard to the Middle East by equating the aggressor and the victim. He expects any statement to be issued by the European group concerning the Palestinian question to be feeble and containing no new elements.

The Palestinian official called for the marriage of political and military action. He said that the Arabs, with this marriage, could achieve the establishment of a just peace. He warned the Arab countries against relinquishing the Fes peace plan or of even giving a mere hint of flexibility. He described the results produced from this as serious; some Arabs felt them last year.

He said that adherence to the Fes program and the adoption of joint political and military action would convince America that the Arabs cannot accept an imposed peace. He added that the Arabs are capable of such action because there are a number of cards that have yet to be played. He pointed out that the Arab struggle last year will lead to the abrogation of the imposed 17 May agreement. Ad-Dajani, at the end of his interview, expressed his belief that this event will be the phenomenon of 1984. He said that the Arabs must exploit this, considering it "a turning point."

Baghdad PLO Radio Reports Military Operations

*JN041743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] The Palestinian and Nationalist Lebanese resistance men escalated their daring operations against the Zionist invasion forces in the occupied Lebanese territories, inflicting on the enemy more losses in life and equipment. A group of the resistance men attacked an Israeli military patrol in the Sidon port area in southern Lebanon. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and missiles, resulted in the wounding or killing of several Zionist soldiers. A Zionist spokesman admitted the operation and said that its forces immediately launched a large-scale search campaign for the attackers. The Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese resistance men also detonated an explosive charge in a jeep carrying Zionist soldiers, killing or wounding six Zionist soldiers.

Another group of the resistance men attacked an invasion forces' position near Al-Ghanduriyah in southern Lebanon, using machine guns and missiles. The attack resulted in destroying the position, and killing or wounding its occupants. Eyewitnesses have said that the Zionist forces immediately cordoned off the region in search of the attackers, but their attempts were in vain.

Commentary Views PLO-Jordanian Statement

*JN031057 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Upon discussing the principal points on which the Palestinian-Jordanian talks were based with regard to either the priority of presentation or calculating results and positions, we find that the conditions of our struggling masses in the occupied territories and the means of supporting their struggle and steadfastness were among the principal important, if not the most important, points. This is what we clearly find in the joint statement that was issued at the end of the talks. It stressed a number of positions and facts pertaining to our masses as well as to practical measures in support of their steadfastness and of the escalating resistance movement. This was done by forming followup committees and other committees charged with contacting the Arab countries to discuss commitments to the fund for bolstering steadfastness.

We consider this question to be an important and basic one for our revolution in order for it to face the Zionist challenges, which are primarily aimed at our people and their existence on their land. These challenges are represented in plans and programs at all settlement, economic, and social levels aimed at striking at this steadfastness and hence at striking at our masses' clear position in confronting the occupation; foiling its plans; and heroically struggling to gain our firm rights to repatriation, to self-determination, and to establish an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of our people.

Our Palestinian people, particularly those in the occupied territories, do not think that this question of representation is open for discussion or argument. Our people reject any explanation or interpretation that in any way attempts to affect the PLO's representation. This was clearly defined in the joint statement, without any scope for ambiguity or misinterpretation. It is on the basis of this principled point that every dialogue or meeting is held, that joint efforts are coordinated politically and diplomatically in the service of our just cause, and that efforts are united to support our people's steadfastness and their use of all forms of firmness and confrontation to reject the Zionist enemy.

There is no doubt that when stressing this point, the leadership of the Palestinian revolution is not acting on momentary, narrow calculations, nor is it dealing with concepts of profit and loss. It is proceeding from deep historical and political calculations that revolve around serving our people and their firm rights, the foremost of which is their right to their independent national decisionmaking. If the Fes summit has stressed this point from the position of decisionmaking, our people have asserted it from the confrontation trench, with concepts of sacrifice, and with the laws of revolution that are blessed by the blood of the martyrs and the sacrifices of our people in the trenches of war and arenas of confrontation.

Hence, we say that the success and level of any coordination or dialogue between our revolution and the Arab countries depend on these countries' credibility in abiding by these basic and essential points. Our revolution waged the struggle for our people—who provided it with all forms of power and strength—only for the sake of achieving these people's major aims and

fulfilling their aspirations for repatriation, self-determination, and establishing an independent state. It is for the sake of these aims that our revolutionaries are fighting and that our people in the occupied territory are struggling from a position of resistance and steadfastness against the Israeli occupation.

Our people, who broke all records and theories by placing steadfastness with the few things they possess, need real and effective support, not sweet words and good wishes. The Zionist enemy's various plans for settlement and economic plunder cannot be confronted by an enthusiastic commentary or speech. They can be confronted by counter programs and plans, for which funds and efforts should be mobilized. Our people, who managed to hold out with the little they have, are highly qualified to foil the enemy programs and plans once the means and factors of confrontation, particularly on the material level, are available to them. The Arab countries possess much in this regard, if we do not say that they have a financial surplus which, once available to our people, can bring about a qualitative change not only on the level of steadfastness, but also on the level of shifting from the position of defending the people and land to that of an offensive.

Under the PLO's leadership, our people are certainly capable of eventually wrenching their rights and achieving their aims in repatriation, self-determination, and establishing an independent state. Greetings to the masses of our steadfast people in the occupied territory. Greetings to our revolutionaries along the road of our major aims.

KUWAIT

Verdicts on Terrorists To be Issued 27 March*GF031846 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 2 Mar 84 p 1**[Hamud al-Huwayjah report]*

[Excerpts] The State Security Court is deliberating the verdicts in the cases of those accused in the explosions, now that it has listened to the arguments of the 10 lawyers who defended the accused. Of those lawyers, there are seven who are delegated and the other three are authorized. The court has decided to hold an open session on Tuesday, 27 March, to issue verdicts against the accused. The accused in this case are 25 people. Four of these are at large and the other 21 appeared in the court. The court will issue verdicts on those who are at large in absentia. The State Security court has asked citizens, representatives of local press, and news agencies who desire to attend the session to apply in writing to enable the court to issue permits to them.

French Defense Minister Meets Counterpart*LD051108 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 Gmt 5 Mar 84*

[Text] Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah had a meeting in his office at 1130 this morning with French Defense Minister Charles Hernu, who is currently visiting the country at the head of a high-ranking military delegation. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations between the two countries in addition to issues of common interest, and particularly development of the situation in the Middle East.

Arab League's Klibi Arrives for Consultations*LD042143 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Mr Chedli Klibi arrived in the country this evening in the third stage of his current Arab tour. So far he has visited Damascus and Abu Dhabi. He was welcomed on arrival by Minister of Communications 'Isa Muhammad al-Masidi and the director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry. KUNA quoted Mr Klibi as saying that his visit to Kuwait was for consultations with His Highness the Amir concerning a number of topical issues. He said that he was looking forward to the talks he would be having with his highness, may God protect him; and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and information minister; given Kuwait's excellent role in supporting Arab action. Mr Klibi lauded Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad's efforts to clarify the Arab atmosphere.

Before leaving Abu Dhabi this evening, Mr Klibi met with His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan al-Nahayan, with whom he reviewed current Arab issues and the development of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the efforts that could be made to stop the bloodshed between the two countries. Mr Klibi said that Shaykh Zahid reaffirmed his support for any effort to face up to the challenges facing the Arab and Islamic nation.

PDRY

Soviet Trade Delegation Arrives in Aden*GF021848 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] A delegation from the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade — headed by Comrade Rudolf Makarov, deputy minister of foreign trade, arrived in Aden this afternoon on a working visit to the PDRY that will last several days. In a statement to ADEN NEWS AGENCY, Comrade Makarov said that he would hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Trade and Supply on bilateral relations dealing with foreign trade and trade exchange between the two friendly countries. He said that a trade protocol will be signed on trade exchange of commodities for 1984 in accordance with an agreement signed between the two sides in 1981. The delegation was received by Brother 'Abdallah Sa'id Salim al-Qitiri, deputy minister of trade and supply, and a number of officials in the ministry in addition to the Soviet ambassador in Aden.

Talks Begin*GF031744 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli, trade and supply minister, today discussed with the Soviet delegation — which is led by Comrade Makarov, Soviet deputy minister of foreign trade — trade relations between the two friendly countries. During the meeting the two sides hailed the mushrooming trade relations and the rise in the trade exchange last year. The official talks dealing with signing the protocol of trade exchange for the year 1984 started today at the Trade and Supply Ministry. Our country's delegation was led by Brother Salim al-Jisri, deputy trade and supply minister. The Soviet delegation was led by Comrade Makarov, Soviet deputy minister of foreign trade. The talks will tackle assessment of the implementation of the trade protocol for the year 1983 in addition to promoting the horizons of trade and scientific exchanges in the future between the two friendly countries. These annual talks come in accordance with the current long-term agreement for the years 1981-1985 signed between the two friendly countries in Moscow in 1981.

Hungarian Party Delegation Arrives in Aden*GF031739 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] The party discussions between the YSP and the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party will open late today at the Secretariat of the YSP Central Committee. These discussions will deal with developing relations between the two friendly parties and the protocol which the two sides are scheduled to sign on the current visit of the Hungarian party delegation to our country. The Yemeni side at the talks will be chaired by Brother Mahmud an-Najashi, secretary of the Central Committee. The Hungarian side will be led by Janos Kovacs, member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and secretary general of the planning commission. The Hungarian party del-

egation arrived in Aden today on a visit to our country at the invitation of the YSP Central Committee that will last for several days. During this visit the delegation will hold talks with a number of party and state officials.

Talks Begin

GF040504 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
3 Mar 84

[Text] The talks between the YSP delegation which is led by Brother Mahmud an-Najashi, member of the YSP Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Central Committee [title as heard], and the delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party which is led by Janos Kovacs, member of the Central Committee and secretary general of the National Planning Commission in Hungary, began today at the Secretariat of the Central Committee. During the talks, the two sides exchanged views on the issues of party cooperation between the YSP and the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party basing it on developing relations between the two parties and the two friendly countries. They also reviewed the circumstances, the developments, and the activities of the two friendly countries and parties in the political, economic, and social fields. They also discussed regional and international situations.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of understanding and views were identical on the various matters that were discussed. Among those who took part in the talks of the delegations of the two parties were Brother Husayn 'Arab, our charge d'affaires in Hungary and Comrade Ferenc Szabo, the Hungarian Ambassador in Aden.

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh Reports Lebanese Foreign Minister's Arrival

LD022023 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT
2 Mar 84

[Text] The Lebanese minister of foreign affairs, Dr Elie Salim, arrived in Riyadh this evening. He was received at King Khalid International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the minister of foreign affairs.

Salim Briefs on Summit Results

NC030644 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT
3 Mar 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim arrived in Riyadh yesterday and briefed Saudi officials, especially Foreign Minister Saud al-Faysal, in the presence of Rafiq al-Hariri. Salim briefed the officials on the outcome of talks between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad. Dr Salim is expected to return to Beirut today. Riyadh has expressed its satisfaction with President al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus. Saudi sources said Lebanon has adopted the Arab option to resolve its crisis.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Departs

LD031045 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0932 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Riyadh, 3 Mar (SPA) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim left Riyadh this morning at the end of his brief visit to the Kingdom, during which he met with Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who also saw him off at the airport. Before leaving, Elie Salim made a statement to SPA in which he expressed gratitude to King Fahd ibn 'abd al-Aziz for the immense efforts he exerts in healing the rift and closing the ranks of the Arabs and for his endeavors to ease tense situations and bring the views of the brothers in Lebanon closer. He said that his visit to the Kingdom falls within the framework of ongoing contacts between officials of the Kingdom and Lebanon and their consultations over the new developments in Lebanon in particular and the Arab world in general.

Asked about Al-Jumayyil's recent visit to Damascus, Salim said that that it was aimed at discussing bilateral relations between Syria and Lebanon, as well as Lebanon's sufferings as a result of the complicated events that are taking place there. He affirmed that the results of the talks between the Syrian and the Lebanese presidents are positive and good.

Commentator on Benefits of Husayn-'Arafat Agreement

LD022318 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT
2 Mar 84

[Husayn al-'Askari commentary]

[Text] Palestinian sources stated that His Majesty King Husayn, the Jordanian monarch, and Mr Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO chairman, have nearly reached an agreement concerning a Jordanian-Palestinian peace initiative. The results of the meetings between the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships will appear during the next few days. This is what the observers and officials in the Jordanian capital believe. Hence, these words come as a good impression that what occurred in Amman, the dialogue between Jordan and Mr Yasir 'Arafat, has created a solid basis which will be the starting point towards the horizons of the future with a clear and harmonious vision. With this vision, what Mr Hani al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser, said that the current stage is the stage of collecting the papers to draw an anti-Zionist settlement policy and to draw up a framework for Arab and international action. What he said reveals the dimensions of what has been agreed on and that there is nothing that can constitute a tactical surprise, because what has been discussed is far deeper and more comprehensive than can be expressed by communiques, and this is a good sign because matters must be judged according to their results. The awaited results, in such a situation, must not be subjected to a dazzling process, whose glitter might dim with time, as the meaning is the more important and effective part.

Because of this consideration it is expected that the results of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue will rise to the level of the Arab nation's aspirations with enough effect to reveal the dimensions of the difficulties of dealing with the Israeli enemy who looks at matters and deals with them through military terms. The enemy's outlook concentrates on the stance that only military

power is the determining factor. Therefore, Jordan and the PLO reaching an agreement constitutes a strong and long-term push forward towards creating a new reality which serves the Arab nation and consecrates the Palestinian presence on its land and the possibility that the Palestinian people can restore their rights according to studies and perceptive plans.

Riyadh Lauds Lebanese Moves Toward Reconciliation

LD032224 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Mar 84

[News and Comment by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] News from Beirut indicates that the Lebanese will shortly take important decisions whose results will include consecrating national unity and gathering the Lebanese at a common meeting point which will restore security and peace to Lebanon. The situation in Lebanon is approaching the moment of decision. This is agreed by observers who view developments in the Lebanese arena after the Syrian-Lebanese summit as raising hopes for a form of agreement which will end the bloody tragedy from which Lebanon has been and is still suffering.

Starting from this new reality, observers expect a tangible relaxation of the situation as a result of measures that are expected to be adopted by the Lebanese president. At the front of these decisions is the formation of a national unity government and the fixing of a date for the resumption of the national dialogue conference in Switzerland. All this comes within the framework of the attempts aimed at abrogating the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which constituted an obstacle to reaching reconciliation among the Lebanese factions. Out of this concern, a feeling of optimism has emerged in Arab capitals which have welcomed the meeting of the Syrian and Lebanese presidents and considered it a good opportunity for an agreement between the brothers in Beirut and Damascus on a working plan which will be able to meet the challenges that have confronted and are still confronting Lebanon and Syria together.

As for external reactions, opinions have varied concerning the Syrian-Lebanese summit, even if these opinions agreed on blessing any step that might restore security and peace to Lebanon. But the reaction of the Israeli enemy was characterized by severe criticism of the Syrian-Lebanese summit meeting. It is natural that the Israeli reaction would be one of dissatisfaction, because an agreement between the brothers in Syria and Lebanon cancels many of the cards with which the enemy was playing and through which it exerted its pressures on events in the Lebanese arena in order to control them and to escalate the situation so that the option would remain in the hands of Israel which has been and still is pretending that the security and peace of Lebanon are subject to Israeli control.

Now the enemy understands that the Lebanese are unanimous about the necessity of dealing with the interests of their country through a clear understanding of the realities of the issues. At this point, the real reason emerges for the campaigns which are currently run by the enemy's media which concentrates on doubting the ability of the Lebanese, the people and the government, to overcome the crisis in their country and rescue this

country from its tragedy. But the Lebanese people, through their persistence and faith, have overcome all the difficulties and have moved toward implementing their national will through their convictions.

United States Embassy Move to Jerusalem Viewed

LD021839 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1757 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Washington, 2 Mar (SPA) — The Saudi Arabian Embassy in Washington has commented on the discussions taking place in the U.S. Congress on the request that the American Administration move its embassy in the Zionist entity from Tel Aviv to the occupied city of Jerusalem. The Saudi Embassy explained that the implementation of such a step would constitute a violation of the UN resolutions on this issue. In a statement on this subject the embassy said that moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem would be viewed as a provocation against the feelings of the Islamic and Arab countries. In addition, it would change the character of the sacred city, and it would also harm American interests in the region.

UAE

President, Delegation Leave for Saudi Arabia

GF030908 Doha QNA in Arabic 0806 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (QNA) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan left Abu Dhabi for Riyadh this morning on a brief visit to Saudi Arabia. During this visit, Shaykh Zayid will meet with King Fahd ibn 'abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia with whom he will exchange views and opinions on the current developments that face the Arab and Islamic nations and the means for strengthening Arab solidarity. Shaykh Zayid is accompanied during this visit by Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaywayn; Shaykh Hamad ash-Sharqi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Al-Fujayrah; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid, defense minister; Mr Ahmad ibn Khalifah as-Sawaydi, the UAE president's representative; and Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utiyah, minister of petroleum and natural resources.

French Trade Minister Arrives For Talks

GF031150 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (WAKH) — Mrs Edith Cresson, French minister of trade and tourism, arrived in Abu Dhabi this morning leading a delegation on a 3-day visit to the UAE. During her visit, the French minister will hold talks with UAE officials with the aim of bolstering the relations in joint cooperation and developing them in the commercial and economic fields.

Talks Begin

GF031404 Doha QNA in Arabic 1240 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (QNA) — Official economic talks between the UAE delegation led by Sayf al-Jarawan, minister of economy and trade, and the French delegation, led by Edith

Cresson, minister of trade and tourism, who arrived here today starting a tour of a number of countries in the region. Sources at the joint delegation said the session dealt with means of developing and furthering the economic, trade, and technical cooperation existing between the two countries in view of the French Government's desire to bolster cooperation with the Gulf countries in general and the UAE in particular to cover various investment fields.

Sources in the French delegation told the QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi that the delegation's tour aims at calling for diversifying Arab investments in France — which is now confined to estate sector — to cover other sectors like electronics and telecommunications. The sources indicated that the drop in France's purchase of Gulf oil during the period 1982-1983 was a result of diversifying energy sources in France and the slow economic process, which contributed in making an adjustment in the French balance of trade with the region's countries.

Finance Minister Meeting

GF041520 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1315 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Dubayy, 4 Mar (WAM) — Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid, minister of finance and industry, received at the guest palace today Edith Cresson, French minister of trade and tourism, who is currently visiting the country. In a statement to WAM following the meeting, Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid said that he discussed with the French minister the economic relations which includes the trade and industry sides between the two countries and the current trade between them. He stressed to the French minister the importance for France to play a bigger role and adopt a larger stance in the economic fields between France and the UAE so that it serves the two countries' joint interests. Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid expressed his hope for the further development of the relations between the two countries, for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries.

The French minister expressed her government's desire to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in all fields. The meeting was attended by Sayf al-Jarwan, minister of economy and trade; and Jean Honnorat, French ambassador to the UAE.

Message From Mitterrand

GF031628 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1330 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a written message from French President Francois Mitterrand dealing with bilateral relations and developments of the situation in the Gulf region and the Middle East. The message was delivered to Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the UAE president's court, during his meeting today with Edith Cresson, French minister of trade and tourism, who is currently visiting the UAE.

Touring Iranian Foreign Ministry Envoy Received

GF031449 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1425 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the UAE president's court, received here today Mohammed Lavasani, director general of the Arab and African Department at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, who is currently visiting the UAE. The audience was attended by Mahmud Madar-Shahi, Iranian ambassador to the UAE. Lavasani arrived Abu Dhabi this morning on a 1-day visit to the UAE within his current tour of a number of countries in the region.

Ash-Shariqah Ruler Receives U.S. Commander

GF031413 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1348 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 3 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of ash-Shariqah, received here today J.F. Addams, commander of the U.S. Naval forces in the Gulf region, who is currently visiting the UAE. The audience was attended by George Quincey Lumsden, U.S. ambassador to the UAE.

Arab League Secretary General Klibi Arrives

GF040900 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0540 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (WAKH) — The Arab League secretary general, Mr Chedli Klibi, arrived in Abu Dhabi this evening on a 1-day visit to the UAE within his tour of a number of the Arab states. Upon his arrival, Mr Klibi stated that his visit is aimed at holding consultations with UAE officials on the current Arab situation and what can be done in order to tackle the proposed question in the Arab arena. He praised the courageous efforts by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to settle dispute among some Arab states. He said he will also discuss with the UAE officials the efforts to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war and stressed the necessity of uniting Arab efforts with the efforts of all friendly countries and international organizations in order to put an end to this war whose dangerous developments are now threatening the region's security and endangering world peace.

Meets Foreign Minister

GF041336 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1220 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Mar (WAKH) — UAE Foreign Minister Rashid 'Abdallah met today with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi who is currently visiting the UAE. During the meeting, they discussed the developments in the Middle East situation, particularly the situation in Lebanon, the Iraqi-Iranian war and its repercussions, the intensification of efforts to stop this war, and the Arab League's role in creating the appropriate atmosphere to crystalize a unified Arab stand toward these issues. The meeting was attended by a number of UAE Foreign Ministry officials.

Klibi on Aid to Iraq*GF041440 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1345 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Mar (WAKH) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has asserted that the recent Fes summit resolutions are being implemented regarding aid to Iraq in its war with Iran. In a press statement here today, Klibi said these resolutions are being implemented slowly due to the international economic situation. We are trying to implement these resolutions to ensure the minimum, he said.

In reply to a question by WAM on whether aid for Iraq is economic or military, the Arab League secretary general said the aid that was approved by the Fes summit is comprehensive. It is comprehensive aid which diverges according to potential and circumstances. Interests probably makes it necessary to exert more political efforts, he said.

Klibi said the Arab League is trying on the level of the Secretariat General and member countries to organize new initiatives to settle the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran peacefully now that all other mediation has failed. He noted that the Arab League is now planning new political mediations to be carried by Arab countries acceptable to both countries such as the UAE, Algeria and Kuwait. He emphasized the role of jurists in the Islamic world in stopping the war between the two Muslim countries, Iraq and Iran, to parallel political mediations. Islam makes it incumbent upon Muslims in general and jurists in particular to exert mediation efforts to end conflict, Klibi said. He described the role of jurists in the Islamic world to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war as primary, particularly for Iran, the Muslim country which enjoins Islam and is ruled by jurists and which should respond to this logic.

The Arab League secretary general called for intervention and efforts to stop this war, particularly at this time when the Islamic world has a great number of jurists in the Al-Azhar, Az-Zaytunah, Al-Qurawiyyin [religious universities in Egypt and Tunis].

Klibi emphasized the importance of Arab foreign ministers' participation in the next Arab League council which will be held in Tunis in late March to help in adopting resolutions which the current Arab situation requires. He said his talks with UAE Foreign Minister Rashid 'Abdallah today dealt with various developments in the Arab scene, particularly the developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war which he described as a devastating war going on between neighboring Muslim countries and which has almost sapped all their economic capabilities. He added that his consultations with the UAE minister dealt with efforts to stop this bloodshed between Iraq and Iran which only serves the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation. He noted that during the talks, they also reviewed the general Arab situation, the agenda of the next session of the Arab League Council and the attention the topics included on the agenda should receive from all Arab Governments.

President Meets Klibi*GF050506 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2015 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Mar (WAKH) — UAE president, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received here today Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, who is currently visiting the UAE. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the UAE president's office; Dr Man'i Sa'id al-Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources; and Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs. After the meeting, Klibi said that they had reviewed the current Arab situation, the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and efforts which can be made to end this war and stop the bloodshed between the two Muslim neighbors. He said that Shaykh Zayid responded with total understanding and a readiness to support any effort to face the challenges facing the Arab and Islamic nations.

'Ali on Arab League, Lebanon, Gulf War*NC030628 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2318 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stressed that Egypt is not absent from the arena, but is present by its action, weight, and position, and that it does not seek leadership.

In an interview to be published Saturday in the weekly *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*, 'Ali asks where the Arab League is now after Egypt's nonparticipation in it. He said the Tunis-based Arab League has no voice, influence, and effectiveness.

Regarding Egypt's role in the Arab world, 'Ali said Egypt has at no time claimed that it is seeking the leadership or that it is a pioneer. He noted that Egypt maintains its natural role dictated by its weight in the Arab world. He added that Egypt's persuasive power and consultations with the states in the area continue, and are getting stronger daily. He said this was evident at the recent Islamic Summit Conference.

Regarding Lebanon, 'Ali said Egypt cannot abandon Al-Jumayyil's government because it is the legitimate government. He expressed the belief that Lebanon cannot possibly agree to remain under Syria's banner forever.

Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war, 'Ali stressed that Egypt is helping Iraq politically in all its calls for ending the war, and it is backing Iraq to develop and increase its defensive capability. This stand is a part of Egypt's policy. 'Ali urged the international community to understand that continued weapons sales to the Iranian side will encourage it to prolong the war.

Government To Seek UN Force for Lebanon*JN031919 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] I have learned that Egypt intends to submit a draft resolution to the UN Security Council on the dispatch of a UN peace-keeping force to Lebanon. Cairo is now holding contacts with France and UN Security Council members prior to submitting a new draft resolution to the Council calling for replacing the Multinational Forces in Lebanon with a UN force. Egypt is making this move following the failure of the French draft resolution, which was vetoed by the USSR. It is understood that Egypt's current attempt is to submit a draft resolution that will satisfy all sides so as to avoid a Soviet or U.S. veto, and thus enable the United Nations to supervise security and peace in Lebanon. Within the context of these contacts, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson today sent a message to Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. On the other hand, Kamal Hasan 'Ali made a statement in which he said that the fact Syria has historical interests in Lebanon doesn't mean it should insist on the continued presence of its forces in Lebanon. He also said he doesn't believe that Lebanon, with all its factions, would agree to remain under the Syrian banner forever.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: Egypt has always believed that Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon is the responsibility of the Arab states. Therefore, we say the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon must not be timed with a Syrian withdrawal. We believe Israel should begin its withdrawal first, to be followed by a Syrian withdrawal. The important factor is that these two powers not remain in Lebanon, because an independent Lebanon is a gain for the Arabs.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali reaffirmed that the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon is a condition for the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel. This came in a statement to Israeli radio.

Cheysson Message to 'Ali on Recent UN Debate*NC031800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received a message from French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson. In the message, the French minister expressed France's thanks and appreciation for Egypt's position during the recent debates conducted at the UN Security Council on the issue of substituting UN forces for the Multinational Force.

Italy, Britain Extend Sinai MFO Mandate*NC032006 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1948 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has received the Italian and British Governments' approval to extend for another year the mandate of their peace-keeping forces in Sinai operating within the Multinational Force.

ANSA: Italian Contingent To Stay 2 More Years*AU050856 Rome ANSA in English 0840 GMT 5 Mar 84*

[Text] (ANSA) Cairo March 5 — Italy has informed Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali that it intends to keep its contingent in the Sinai for another two years as part of the Multinational Force which since 1982 has supervised the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, according to official Egyptian sources here. The mandate for the Multinational Force in the Sinai expires April 25, but both the Egyptian and Israeli Governments are pushing for its renewal. Eleven nations are taking part in the force and Italy is present in the Sinai with 90 sailors aboard three minesweepers. Their job is to see to it that navigation is unhindered through the Tiran Straits.

EC's Thorn Arrives for Talks With Leaders*NC040957 Cairo MENA in English 0900 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Cairo, March 4 (MENA) — Head of the European Community Commission Gaston Thorn arrived here this morning from Amman for talks with senior officials on bilateral relations between Egypt and the European Group as well as international issues of mutual interest. Thorn is due to meet tomorrow with President Husni Mubarak. He would also meet

during the visit with Premier Dr Fuad Muhyi ad-Din; Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali; as well as with People's Assembly and Shura Council speakers Dr Kamil Laylah and Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim.

Thorn is leading a delegation representing the European group on a four-day visit to Egypt.

Thorn Meets 'Ali

NC041630 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1446 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received EEC Commission Chairman Gaston Thorn, who is currently visiting Egypt.

Following the meeting, Thorn affirmed the importance of relations between Egypt and the EEC in various domains. He expressed his happiness with his current visit to Egypt and the talks he will have with other senior state officials. Thorn said: We in the EEC hope to consolidate our relations with Egypt not only in the political field, but also in the economic and trade fields. We hope to contribute to the implementation of a number of development projects in Egypt.

On his part, 'Ali said he and Thorn reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East, especially those pertaining to the Lebanese and Palestinian issues, and the Iraqi-Iranian war. He explained that the EEC's stands on those issues do not differ much from Egypt's stands, and that the viewpoints are almost identical. He expressed hope that the EEC would be able to play a constructive role during this phase to solve those issues.

'Ali added that his talks with Thorn also dealt with relations between Egypt and the EEC. In this connection, he described Egypt's relations with the EEC as distinguished. Egypt receives the largest share of EEC economic aid earmarked to the Mediterranean Basin countries. There are also several important projects currently implemented in Egypt to which the EEC has offered soft loans and grants. He noted that the volume of transactions between Egypt and the EEC has reached \$275 million.

Gaston Thorn also met today with Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id, minister of trade and foreign trade, to discuss ways of boosting cooperation between Egypt and the EEC. During the meeting, they discussed the possibility of increasing Egyptian exports to the EEC, especially textiles. People's Assembly Speaker Dr Muhammad Kamil Laylah is scheduled to receive Gaston Thorn tomorrow to discuss with him the areas of cooperation between the People's Assembly and the EEC.

Thorn Meets Muhyi ad-Din

NC041625 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din today received Gaston Thorn, chairman of the EEC Commission, who is currently visiting Egypt. During the meeting, they discussed the current developments in the Middle East, particularly the situation in Lebanon and the Iraqi-Iranian war.

They also discussed ways to strengthen the economic cooperation between Egypt and EEC states.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din stressed the importance of encouraging non-traditional, Egyptian exports to the EEC countries to establish some sort of balance in trade relations.

Thorn stated that during his meeting today with the prime minister, they discussed political issues in the Middle East and the Egyptian-French plan for a solution to the Middle East crisis. He added they also discussed ways to develop the trade and economic cooperation between Egypt and the EEC.

Maldivian Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC042125 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2115 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) — Maldivian External Affairs Minister Fathulla Jameel arrived in Cairo this evening on a 3-day visit to Egypt. In an arrival statement, the Maldivian minister said he will hold talks with Egyptian officials on means to bolster bilateral cooperation in the religious, cultural, and political domains. He added that his talks will also touch on a number of Islamic issues and on the outcome of the Islamic summit which was recently held in Rabat. The Maldivian minister was received at the airport by Assistant Foreign Minister Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid.

Mubarak Receives Minister

NC050938 Cairo MENA in English 0915 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 5 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received here today Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Maldives Fathulla Jameel who arrived in Cairo yesterday on a three-day visit. The meeting was attended by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

Kenyan Chief of Staff Arrives in Cairo 2 March

NC021347 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) — Kenyan Chief of Staff General Molingui arrived in Cairo today at the head of a military delegation for a week-long official visit to Egypt. He was received at the airport by Major General Mahmud az-Zarqani, commander of the Central Zone.

Military Talks Begin

NC031012 Cairo MENA in English 1002 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 3 (MENA) — Egypt and Kenya opened military talks here this morning co-chaired by Chief of Staff Lt General Ibrahim al-'Urabi and his Kenyan counterpart General William Molingui. The talks, which are held at the Headquarters of the Armed Forces General Command, dealt with the feasibility of fostering cooperation between Egypt and Kenya. Following the first round of talks, the visiting Kenyan military delegation, led by General Molingui, placed a wreath on the memorial of the Unknown Soldier. The Kenyan delegation had arrived here

yesterday for a week-long visit at the invitation of Lt General 'Urabi.

Ghali Returns From Addis Ababa OAU Meeting

NC041552 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Cairo this afternoon from Addis Ababa following a 10-day visit during which he led Egypt's delegation to the 40th session of the OAU Ministerial Council.

Dr Ghali told MENA upon arrival that he carries a written message from Gabonese President Omar Bongo to President Husni Mubarak. He also carries verbal messages from the foreign ministers of Mali, Madagascar, and Guinea.

Referring to the meetings of the OAU Ministerial Council, Dr Ghali said the conference succeeded in spreading the spirit of reconciliation and tolerance, and in approving the principle of settling disputes through peaceful means and dialogue — a principle advocated by Egyptian diplomacy. He added that the conference also succeeded in tackling many economic and social problems. The foreign ministers' talks also aimed at settling the political disputes before the May meeting of the ministerial conference in Conakry.

Mubarak Receives Soviet Thanks for Condolences

NC031259 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1250 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has received a cable of thanks from the Supreme Soviet Presidium in reply to his cable of condolences on the death of Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov.

Libyan Opposition Inaugurates Radio Transmitter

NC031642 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Rome, 3 Mar (MENA) — The existence of a Libyan front opposing the regime of Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi has been confirmed. The front has started a radio transmission in the name of "The Voice of the Libyan People, the Voice of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya." [Sawt ash-Sha'b al-Libi, Sawt al-Jabhah al-Wataniyah li Inqadh Libya]

The new radio is transmitting on a 25-meter shortwave band every day after midnight.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communiques**No 1,392 — 2 March**

*JN021741 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Communique No 1,392 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 2 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Taste ye your trial. This is what ye used to ask to be hastened. [Koranic verse]

Our heroic Armed Forces, whose spirit of combat, sacrifice, and devotion is rising, and whose confidence in the inevitability of an eventual clear, decisive victory over the barbarous invaders is mounting, will remain, with God's support, ready to crush and destroy any new aggressive attempt, to inflict further heavy losses and disasters on the expansionist invaders, and to rub the noses of the evil, sinful Iranian clique in the dust of defeat and ignominy. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. The criminal Iranian enemy has again attempted to try its ill-fated luck. At 2330 yesterday, 1 March, the enemy launched a new aggression against our brave units east of Basra. Our brave units confronted the enemy forces and clashed with them in fierce, valiant battles all day on 1 March and until 0930 today, 2 March, when our forces were able to defeat the enemy attack and destroy the enemy's attacking force and wipe it out — except for those who fled in frustration and humiliation, chased by our gunfire; and those who preferred to fall prisoner in the hands of our brave soldiers.

The enemy losses during the battles from the night of 29 February until the morning of 2 March amounted to 19,381 soldiers killed, a great number of wounded, and groups of prisoners. Our forces destroyed 57 tanks, 30 excavators, 115 vehicles, 11 bulldozers and 5 bazookas. Our forces also sank 36 boats, some of which laden with personnel and equipment. A great amount of military hardware and weaponry was destroyed and a great quantity of serviceable weaponry and equipment was captured.

2. Our forces have been able to photograph a number of the enemy's naval targets which our Navy and its Air Force destroyed in the Khawr-e Musa area, northeast of the Arab Gulf yesterday. Columns of smoke were seen rising from these targets. They were photographed before they were swallowed by the Gulf waters. The destruction of these naval targets was mentioned in our communique No 1,391 issued yesterday.

3. Our daring Air Force planes continued today their bold, concentrated raids on enemy positions and troop concentrations in the sectors of the III and IV Army Corps and the east Tigris sector, and on military targets deep inside Iranian territory. Our planes scored direct, effective hits and inflicted immense losses in men and equipment. All our planes returned safely to base with the exception of one plane which fell inside enemy territory. On our part, we hold the Iranian side responsible for the safety of the pilot. Our planes today carried out 130 missions.

4. Our Army helicopter gunships today attacked enemy positions

and troop concentrations in the sectors of the III and IV Army Corps and the east of Tigris sector. They scored direct hits and inflicted heavy losses. Those which were monitored amounted to 42 troops concentrations, 6 vehicle assembly points, 2 vehicles, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 big truck laden with hardware, 1 gun, and 20 boats. All our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our helicopters today carried out 140 combat missions.

5. Using various weapons, our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the central sector of the front. The enemy lost seven dead and others wounded.

6. While carrying out their operations in front of our forward units in the east Tigris sector, our combat patrol units found 410 corpses of Iranian enemy soldiers who were killed in previous battles in the same sector in addition to the number of enemy dead which was mentioned in our previous communiques on these battles.

7. The clique of evil and rancor continued last night and today its shelling of Basra, Khanaqin, Ash-Shihabi, Sayyid Sadiq, and Chandri with heavy artillery. The enemy shelling wounded four and damaged two houses in Basra; wounded two, destroyed four houses, and damaged another four houses, two elementary schools, and a civilian car in Khanaqin; and damaged civilian property and a number of establishments in Ash-Shihabi, Sayyid Sadiq, and Chandri.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 March 1984.

No 1,393 — 3 March

*JN031740 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Communique No 1,393 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 3 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Out of their belief in the principles of the brave Iraqis and in defense of Iraq's security and sovereignty, our valiant Armed Forces are continuing their fight against the Iranian clique of evil and aggression. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units raided enemy positions east of Basra, killed 15 enemy soldiers, and wounded others. Our unit destroyed one armored personnel carrier and four heavy and medium machine guns. In other areas of the same sector, our forward units pounded enemy concentrations and attacked enemy personnel movements using artillery and various other weapons. The enemy suffered losses in men and weapons. Our forces destroyed 2 vehicles, one of which laden with hardware, and 19 hardware stockpiles. Our forces set fire to a number of enemy artillery positions.

2. Our daring Air Force planes today launched fierce raids and carried out effective strikes against enemy concentrations, units, and assembly points in the III Army Corps sector. Our forces scored very accurate, effective hits and inflicted on the enemy massive losses in personnel, weapons, and equipment. All of our

fighter planes returned safely to their bases, praise be to God.

3. Our Army helicopter gunships today carried out concentrated attacks against enemy positions and troop concentrations in the III and IV Army Corps sectors. They scored accurate, effective hits and inflicted massive losses, which amounted to the destruction of 30 boats, some of which carried personnel, hardware, and equipment; 5 gun emplacements, and a number of vehicles and troop assembly positions. All our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. One of our forward units clashed with an enemy patrol that attempted to advance toward our forward positions in the northern sector of the front. Our units inflicted a number of casualties and forced the rest to flee.

5. The rancorous Khomeyniite gang shelled yesterday and today Basra, Khanaqin, Ash-Shihabi, Zurbatiyah, and their environs with heavy artillery. The shelling martyred one civilian and injured three others in Basra; destroyed three houses in Khanaqin and five houses in Ash-Shihabi; and damaged civilian property in Zurbatiyah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 March 1984.

No 1,394 — 4 March

JN041731 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,394 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 4 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The war the spiteful Khomeyniite regime launched against our proud country today enters its 43d month at a time when the zealous sons of our people and the brave men of our Armed Forces are stronger and more determined to repulse the covetous invaders and crush all their hostile, criminal attempts. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. A force from one of our brave forward units raided the enemy positions opposite our positions east of Basra and clashed with the enemy troops with all types of weapons, killing or wounding a number of them. Elsewhere in the same sector, our units pounded enemy concentrations and positions, dealing them direct and effective blows. One gun, two infantry positions, and two hardware stockpiles were destroyed elsewhere in the same sector. Those manning the gun and infantry positions were killed.

2. Our capable Air Force aircraft today raided the enemy positions, units, and concentrations of both personnel and vehicles in the areas opposite our forward units' positions in the III Army Corps sector, inflicting losses in men and equipment and setting fire to several enemy positions, equipment, and various types of weapons. All our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our bold helicopter gunships today attacked the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the III Army Corps and east Tigris sectors, scoring direct and effective hits. The known enemy

losses during these attacks amounted to the destruction of five boats, one vehicle, and a number of troop concentrations. All our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. One of our forward units confronted and clashed with an enemy force which tried to approach our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing 69 troops, wounding others and destroying a number of enemy weapons and equipment.

5. Six were killed in the central sector of the battlefield.

6. Yesterday evening and today, the criminal Khomeyniites continued their shelling of Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, and their suburbs with heavy artillery. The savage enemy shelling wounded four civilians and damaged four civilian cars in Basra; wounded one civilian and damaged one civilian car in Mandali; and wounded one civilian, destroyed one house, and damaged another house in Khanaqin.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 March 1984

Defense Minister's Interview With Radio Monte Carlo JN022205 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text of interview Defense Minister General 'Adnan Khayrallah by Monte Carlo radio correspondent Faridah ash-Shubashi "somewhere on the front," carried within the weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program, on 1 March — recorded]

[Text][Faridah ash-Shubashi] Minister Khayrallah, the Huwayzah marshes have been the focus of Arab and foreign news in the past few days. Can you explain to us from the geographical, military, and perhaps the political point of view why Huwayzah, and what Iran's calculations were in this battle? [question as heard]

['Adnan Khayrallah] The Huwayzah marshes start from the north in the area where the Iraqi-Iranian border meet and extend to approximately the middle of the lake, taking an oval shape, more long than wide, and end at the turn of the railway on the mainland, which extends eastward to what is called (Kushk al-Masri) tunnel — it is a right angle extending to the east and then to the south until it meets with Shatt al-'Arab. This is the sector of the II Army Corps, which the Iranians attacked in the east of Basra battles whose details you and the listeners are aware of. The results and big losses in the history of our battles with the Iranian side are considered beyond imagination concerning the Iranian losses that were disclosed to the world. According to what some observers believe, the Iranians should not repeat any offensive in this sector if they are rational.

The Huwayzah marsh is a low water level marsh and is 60-80 kms long on some sides and 30-40 kms wide on some sides. Half of the area of the marshes is on the Iranian side and the other half on the Iraqi side according to the demarcation of the border during the Ottoman and Persian regimes at the time — during the absence of the national Iraqi state. This area is Arab land east of the marshes and across what is called [name indistinct]. The features of this area, its inhabitants, tribes, and language

cannot be denied as being Arab. The Iranians wanted to wage a sudden attack at a vacant area that has a water barrier. I believe that the decisionmaker on the Iranian side is totally unaware of what is lying in wait beyond the Huwayzah marshes. If this decisionmaker was aware of the realities there, he would not have carried out such an action, which in military terminology is very simply called complete ignorance and contradicts fundamental military logic. The Iranians dispatched thousands of boys through this low water level, imagining that if they reached the highway adjacent to the western side of the Huwayzah marshes it would then be Iraq's decisive end.

[Ash-Shubashi] Did the Iranians cut off the highway?

[Khayrallah] The Basra-Baghdad highway, passing through Al-Qurnah and (?Maysan), is a highway adjacent to the marshes. The results of this offensive were what you and the whole world saw on television, despite the bitterness of the scene. Thousands of Iranians were killed. Several died in the marshes due to the lack of administrative and all types of military support for this offensive — which is called by military science "logistical support." The result of this savage (yellow) offensive was that the Iraqi people, including the inhabitants of Al-Qurnah and the villages surrounding the line of the marshes, completely wiped out the offensive.

In my opinion, besides being an attempt to preoccupy Iraq, their choice of the Huwayzah marshes and Basra, in general, as a target may be a direct or indirect operation as part of their dreams to have joint borders with Kuwait, and subsequently, to have the ill-wind flutter over the remote bank of the Arab Gulf in completion of the course that the shah had adopted. Before his death, the shah told his son that he had secured for him the bank which is near and that he would have to obtain the remote bank. The Iranian mullahs adopted the shah's inclinations and trend. They tried to win it, believing they could achieve this by surprise in view of the absence of regular forces there. They forgot that the Iraqi military and political command was alert and that the Iraqis are always taking the necessary precautionary measures. From the political point of view, they wanted to show the world that they had detached the southern part of Iraq to obtain a link with the Gulf in preparation to invade the Gulf as they stated more than once.

From the military point of view, they wanted to compare themselves with [words indistinct] in the (?Deversoir) with the big difference that all the components were different in the (?Deversoir) than with what they are here.

In the case of Huwayzah marshes, we are present on our international borders in accordance with an Iraqi decision. If the purpose of the attack was to achieve a balance of pressure, this has not been achieved. If the purpose of the attack was for political reasons, these reasons are the designs that the Tehran rulers harbor in their sick minds and dreams.

As for the size of the offensive, which they have boasted about by saying that it comprises 1 or 2 million, they are all young children whom the entire world have seen on television. In my opinion, Khomeyni has scolded his military commanders by telling them that he is 84 years old and he cannot wait to see at

least one Iraqi village occupied by his forces. God willing, we hope that he will die from grief as a result of the steadfastness of the valiant Iraqis — people; leaders; Armed Forces; armed citizens, who will be supported by all the honest men in the Arab nation; and all the honest men in the world who work for peace, prosperity, and tranquillity. God willing, we will defeat them. We promise them this, though we do not like to use the language of threats and we avoid vituperative propaganda.

When I was asked about Shirazi's statements that he had reached the highway and had occupied Al-Qurnah and Basra 1 day before the offensive took place, statements which they later retracted, I calmly answered the journalists: If he really meant what he said, then he must invite me to lunch in Basra. I, however, have been waiting for his reply for 7 days and I have not received his reply yet.

[Ash-Shubashi] Minister Khayrallah, on this occasion Tehran announced that it was warmly welcomed in Iraq's Al-Qurnah. What psychological impact did it seek to achieve by this false announcement? On the other hand, Iranian media have given the name of Keybar and Al-'Uzayr to the recent offensive. Is there a specific reason for these names?

[Khayrallah] If we go back to what had taken place, we find that Tehran used to issue communiques in the name of Khomeyni while addressing the masses in Basra and Al-Qurnah, and before this the previous offensive on east of Basra, calling on them to offer facilities and to welcome the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran. When one has no logic, he acts in this way. [Words indistinct]. When the Iranian Muslim comes to visit the holy places and his brother Muslim in Iraq, he will naturally be welcomed with flowers, and we will offer him the hospitality he deserves. But when they come as invaders, the sons of Basra and the sons of Al-Qurnah will excel in their defense of their cities and their honor. That is why we welcomed them by responding in such a manner on the fringes of the Huwayzah marshes. I hope that this will be a lesson to them. As for their being welcomed as invaders, this is a sick dream.

As for the question of the names, if my assessment proves to be correct, there are some who compare the operation to that of the (?Deversoir).

I hope that my answer is very accurate. However, if we review the events we find that (Al-A'jar) is a village on the Tigris River. Originally it was an observation post. It is called Lazarus in Hebrew. The Khaybar operation is also a play on words. It can be metaphorical. The current scheme was meant to excite certain imaginations. It was meant to reach (Al-A'jar), and to remind people of the Khaybar hills. It was meant for the Iranians to stand on the outskirts of Iraq's An-Nashwah area which is almost in the middle of the distance between Al-Qurnah and Basra in the southern region. History is repeating itself. Lazarus is a Zionist [word indistinct] and Khaybar hills [sentence incomplete]. I would like this question to be directed to Khomeyni or to those who invented these names, which are inspired by their allies who assisted them with weapons and expertise. If you hear Tel Aviv radio and Tehran radio you will find them playing the same tune. The names, the media campaigns of Israel and Iran, and the Israeli military assistance to Iran explain the nature of the

operations. Both have fed from the same breast. There is coordination and the reasons for this are well known to many.

[Ash-Shubashi] Is Israel the only state that helps Iran?

[Khayrallah] It is not only Israel that helps Iran. Rafsanjani admitted that there are military sales which are subjected to debts that go back to the shah era. This may have been logical at the beginning, but what about the continuous cooperation? In our estimates — and we have always answered questions like this — the Khomeyni mission is to complete the second page of Camp David by engaging Iraq. For this reason Zionism is standing behind Khomeyni. In my estimates, the imperialist powers in the region want the Arab states to do everything except to realize unity. The closest capitals to unity are Damascus and Baghdad. There is one party in the two countries with the same ideology and principles. The difference between the two parties is not an ideological one. The differences are on destroying the party in Damascus and creating a deviation in it. [sentence as heard] Look how the regime dealt with the Palestinian resistance. They killed Palestinians in Tal Az-Za'tar. The regime then chased them to Tripoli. They killed the Syrian Arab people in Damascus, Hamah, and Dayr Az-Zawr. The massacres are well known. Political prisoners are being killed in detention camps. They massed their forces against Jordan. They announced their clear support for Iranian aggression. This is the first time that an Arab is being killed by an Arab weapon. You were with the other reporters yesterday. You saw the weapons on which the name Syrian Arab Republic is written. I think you saw them?

[Ash-Shubashi] Yes.

[Khayrallah] The Syrian regime is not hiding it. It has officially announced that Syrian and Libya are working with the Iranian aggressors to bring down the Iraqi regime. Hafiz al-Asad has been assigned the task of splitting the Ba'th Party and thus, preventing any Arab rapprochement or any Syrian-Iraqi unity. He has indulged in creating these differences so as to come up with the result that there can be no Syrian-Iraqi unity.

However, the Iraqi people have known the politics and the war. They do not hold the fraternal Syrian people responsible for the deeds of its ruler. Because if we do this, we would have served the Zionist purpose. Hafiz al-Asad may be living today, but he will not live for ever. [Words indistinct]

For the Arab to support the Iranian and for the Arab to kill the Arab with an Arab weapon, is a serious precedence that Hafiz al-Asad has invented. [words indistinct].

[Ash-Shubashi] General Khayrallah, it is well-known that Iran has announced several times that this assault will be decisive one. How do you view the future of the Gulf war in light of the developments and results of the battles of the southern and central sectors of the front; specifically, the effect of the Huwayzah marshes battle on the course of this war? Allow me to ask you frankly about the question of the enormous Iranian supremacy in manpower.

[Khayrallah] Since the outbreak of the Iraqi-Iranian war, there have been certain facts that are known by Iraq, Iran, and the

whole world; namely, that Iraq is a country whose population does not exceed 14.5 million, according to latest official statistics. Iran's population is about 50 million, its area is five times that of Iraq, and its material capabilities are well-known to the world. Iran is almost the biggest exporter of world oil. Thus, these facts are constant — facts that were present at the beginning of the war, are attending it at present, and will continue in the future. Therefore, what is new in this regard? Whoever follows up the Iranian media and the battles that took place will discover that the Iranians had always been five times greater in number than the Iraqis in any single battle. The mobilization of Iranians during the first 2 years of the war was easy because the regime used to deceive the Iranian individual and incite him against Iraq because it was occupying Iranian land. Following Iraq's withdrawal from Iran by an order from the political command, we returned to the international border. Following this return, the mobilization of Iranian citizens and fighters to throw themselves into hell has become unjustified. This mobilization thus lacks a national incentive. I am certain that the Iranian fighter may ask his superior: If Iraq has returned to the international border, why are you then attacking it, particularly since you have declared that we will neither negotiate with Iraq nor halt the war unless Iraq retreats to the international border? This is what really took place. Therefore, what is the war for and why does it continue?

There is the psychological aspect in mobilizing the Iranian individual — that is, to face a fate that is decided in advance. What is the motive for the Iranian fighter to fight eagerly on a land that does not belong to him? Thus, the Iranian superiority in number is not the decisive element in the war. We should remember that Iranian fighters lack the talent and capability of combat, as well as the drive to be martyred because they are aware of the fact that they have been pushed to fight in losing and useless battles. Therefore, the results of these battles remain the same, regardless of such superiority in number.

Concerning our part, I calmly and confidently say that we are living proudly in our land under the banner of the distinguished leader President Saddam Husayn. In front of our steadfast, struggling and patient people, I can see the results of the battles — whether it takes long or not — as solid facts, the same as I see my interviewer.

Out of self-confidence, we will destroy and foil any Iranian offensive, regardless of its enormity. In every battle the losses of the aggressors will be doubled. I can see the inevitable victory approaching. The time element alone will confirm what I am telling you. I greatly hope that the Iranian side will realize these facts and save the blood of the Iranian people. We consider Iran as our opponent in the war.

In reality, Iran is a neighbor and a Muslim country. Whether we want it or not Iran is our neighbor. The two peoples are Muslim and neighboring peoples. We must live in peace on the premise of mutual respect and noninterference in each others' affairs. Each of the two people has the right to choose the course it wants to follow. I have great hopes that the Iranian people will be given the opportunity to work for peace, build Iran, and establish relations of goodneighborliness with all the parties which surround them. I also hope that their leaders will refrain from the evil trend

of aggression with which they are obsessed. If they review history, they will find that all the evil invasions have been doomed to failure. They are the losers because they have a confused command which only harbors rancor and holds grudges. This is not what Islam preaches. Islam is a religion of tolerance, amity, and brotherhood. It is not a religion of hatred, chauvinism, and intransigence. The blessed prophet and his followers have given us a good example of tolerance, amity, and of preaching the message of peace, not an example of shedding blood as the rulers in Tehran are doing.

I and all the honest and peace-loving people in the world are wondering, and I address myself to the Muslims everywhere in the world and to all those non-Muslims who are working for peace: If two Muslim parties fight one another, should not other Muslim countries interfere to end this dispute, and should not other parties interfere to end the war between the two sides? There is a Koranic verse which says: If two parties among the believers fall into a quarrel, make ye peace between them: but if one of them transgresses beyond bounds against the other, then fight ye all against the one that transgresses until it complies with the command of God. This is a divine command. Khomeini considers himself to be the imam's representative. In view of our knowledge of Khomeini's nature and inclinations, we used to tell the mediation committee that is presided over by Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure and the members of this committee that what had taken place in the battlefield was a preventive measure.

In response to the friends' calls, the wish of the international community, the Islamic mediations, and all the other mediations — whether from the United Nations or by Prime Minister Olof Palme — the practices of the Iranian authorities came to confirm our assessment and our calculations, and the aggression took place against our borders. [Sentence as heard]. Now we are speaking about an Iranian attack which is directed against the east Huwayzah marshes area. Khomeini is a senile aggressor. He has sick dreams and hopes to fulfill some of them; but this is out of his reach. The boots of the Iraqi soldier will crush the heads of the aggressors. We will show them the kind of death that they are looking for. Victory will be ours, with God's help.

[Ash-Shubashi] Iran has denied that Khark Island has been hit by the Iraqis. What is the aim of this denial? Has Iraq used the Super Etendards in shelling the naval targets on the island?

[Khayrallah] The Iranian denial is due to two main reasons. The first is that the countries that own the oil tankers hesitate to send their tankers and men to an area which has become an operational theater. Therefore, admitting the strikes will increase this hesitation in sending these vessels. Of course, there are Iranian and foreign tankers. The states concerned may prevent these ships from being sent to the area as Britain did. The high insurance rates prevent these ships from coming to the island. The second reason is that Iran's arm in terms of its Air Force is very short. [words indistinct] Iran threatened that if Iraq strikes Khark Island it will do so and so. Therefore, it is in Iran's interest to say that the island has not been hit so as to absolve itself from any blame before the Iranian people. Iraq's position is strong and logical. Why does Iran allow itself to export its oil while Iraq is prevented from exporting its natural resources from the Gulf?

We have often presented this idea before. We asked for free navigation in the Gulf for the two sides. Iran announced at that time that this will not serve (?its interests.) Whether Iran admits that the island has been hit or not, I think that some states to whom these tankers belong have admitted these strikes. The Lloyds Insurance Company has admitted that a British tanker was hit. We struck Khark Island before the arrival of the Super Etendard, during their presence, and afterwards. The Super Etendard is now an Iraqi plane. These planes serve our interests when necessary and where our national security is concerned.

[Ash-Shubashi] What is Iraq's position in case the Tehran rulers insist on rejecting any peaceful negotiations to settle the conflict following the Huwayzah battles?

[Khayrallah] Those who follow the Iranian media are aware that they call all their battles decisive battles. For all these battles they say that they mass a great number of troops and the 20 million-man army. I only follow the Iranian media in terms of the military aspects that concern me. They have explained their operations at length.

A new attack began at 2200 last night and has been going on until now. There are three Khomeini guards divisions. I say beforehand that the fate of this offensive will meet with certain death. The listeners know that Baghdad television has shown the corpses of those who stepped on Iraqi soil. This and other operations will meet with the same fate; namely frustration, humiliation, and further losses, whether the war takes a long or a short time.

We hope that war will end and that the Iranian decisionmakers see reason. However, if they indulge in their acts, I tell them that those who step on Iraqi soil will not return unless they raise a white flag and are received as prisoners. I say this with much confidence, with great conviction, and without any vanity.

[Ash-Shubashi] Do you expect Iran to launch further offensives in northern Iraq against Darband-i Khan?

[Khayrallah] Iran did this. It attacked in the central sector near the Darband-i Khan dam. The result is known to them. It attacked in the central sector in the [name indistinct] area. They were wiped out. They attacked in another area near the forefront of the marshes and they were wiped out. Their corpses were shown on television. Those who remained alive were captured. They attacked from the east of Basra area and the battle was decided in 4 hours with astounding results. They came to the marshes and their corpses are now strewn all over the area. You saw them yesterday. They attacked from the Majnunah area. They were killed by the thousands. Today they have also attacked and I am sure their fate will not be better than the previous fates. They have not spared anything. The result was confusion among the commanders and the failure to mobilize their forces in a proper manner. They have forgotten that we always preplan our moves in terms of directing the battles. From wherever they come, they find the same type of forces. They have announced their plans and carried them out with the same results. From wherever they come, they will meet with the well-known resistance of the Iraqi fighter.

[Ash-Shubashi] After this serious escalation at the front, what is Iraq's position vis-a-vis the Arab Collective Defense Pact and the possibility of the internationalization of the conflict?

[Khayrallah] When the war began we planned to fight, using Iraq's own strength, regardless of the circumstances. The Arab brothers were divided. Some of them were supporting Iraq by word and deed. Some of them lent moral support; others were spectators. The rest were supporting the Iranian enemy. From my knowledge of the Arab situation, I think that it is too optimistic for us to expect more than what we have from our Arab brothers during the current Arab nation's circumstances. However, I do not rule out the possibility that, in light of the Iranian regime's intentions to bring down the Iraqi regime or to occupy parts of Iraqi territory, the war will expand. I have no ready basis for this but all indications point out that the region is heading toward certain results. I have no picture of what will happen concerning the Iraqi-Iranian war, but I do not rule out complications.

[Ash-Shubashi] On the international level?

[Khayrallah] We have contacts with big powers and friends. Efforts are being exerted one way or another. They believe that their moves are required and will perhaps be effective. Some of our friends believe that the time is not suitable for any moves. The international circumstances definitely bear on the present situation.

[Ash-Shubashi] I would like to know about the current stands of the superpowers?

[Khayrallah] Recently, a Soviet position was made clear. The Soviets said that the war does not serve the interests of the two warring sides; that it serves the aims of the ambitious big powers. This Soviet stand is known from [words indistinct] as well as its dimensions. In Washington, there is a realization and a new addition to the U.S. stand in dealing with the issues in the region, including the Iraqi-Iranian war. I, however, do not believe that a serious step will take place in the foreseeable future that will add something to the settlement of the Iraqi-Iranian dispute. We hope that the two superpowers, in view of their international status and in view of their relations, will move in a more effective and more serious manner.

[Ash-Shubashi] Do you expect that the heating up of the battle might be an indication of a beginning of a solution to the crisis between Iran and Iraq?

[Khayrallah] For every thing there is a beginning and an end. As for the forthcoming developments, we will implement our economic blockade against Iran. This is our natural right because our resources are being exhausted and Iran is enjoying flowing resources. This stand will reflect on the states that have economic interests in this area. Their interests necessitate exerting special efforts to prevent the worsening of the situation. How? I do not say, but this is just a prediction that is very realistic.

[Ash-Shubashi] Has there been an international or regional move, other than those of the UN General Assembly and Secu-

rity Council, on the war? Has there been an Arab or Islamic move?

[Khayrallah] [Words indistinct] The Islamic mediation committee may renew its efforts. The conference has recommended these moves. I think that one of the participants of the conference — maybe a minister of a foreign minister — played a role on renewing the mediation. However, the current information available to me [words indistinct] due to the current circumstances. However, there are moves in this regards.

[Ash-Shubashi] Thank you, Mr Minister.

Khayrallah Comments on Fighting 1-2 March
PM050857 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 2 Mar 84 p 1

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Baghdad — As night fell yesterday it was officially announced that the new Iranian offensive in the sector of the III Army Corps east of Basra has been crushed. In a statement to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* over the telephone from Basra, the Iraqi Armed Forces deputy commander in chief and defense minister, Staff Air General 'Adnan Khayrallah said that the border is drenched with Iranian blood.

He added: I estimate that there are 5,000 to 6,000 dead opposite our positions on that line alone. We are pained by this and we feel sorry for and sympathize with the young Iranians who are driven to their deaths without mercy or sign of conscience.

The Iraqi minister added: The enemy has been boasting, beating the drums of war, making threats and calling it the final and decisive battle. In his latest statement, their Ground Forces commander, Sayyad-Shirazi, said that yesterday they reached the Al-Qurnah-Al-amarah main road and occupied Basra, driven by their sick dreams of harming lofty Iraq. Between 22 February and today they launched five major offensives: east of Basra, west of Huwayzah, in the sector of the III Army Corps on the international border on the edges of the Huwayzah, in the Chilat sector of Maysan, in the central area of operations, and the concentrated offensive which was launched at 2200 hours yesterday. The brave units of the III Army Corps confronted the yellow invasion. In a fierce battle, in which our valiant units stood fast and in which there was hand to hand fighting in the final stages, the entire force which had reached the edges of our forward positions was wiped out.

Khayrallah Ends 2-Week Tour of War Front
JN032051 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
3 Mar 84

[Text] Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, returned to Baghdad this evening after spending 2 weeks at the war front.

Ramadan: Iraq Able To Achieve Final Victory*JN021621 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and commander in chief of the Popular Army, has asserted that Iraq is able to decide the battle and achieve final victory against the Iranian aggressors. In a speech to the fighters of one of Iraq's governorates, Ramadan said that the confidence and reassurance that the Armed Forces and our great people have are a positive and additional element for deciding the battle which is facing the fate and future of our people and nation.

Ramadan described the great contribution of the glorious sons of Iraq toward the battle as distinctive and new and infuriating to the enemy. He pointed out that the way in which the Iraqis defended their sovereignty and dignity is a unique case that cannot be compared to other cases in the Arab world. Ramadan said that the way that Iraqis rushed to receive the honor of participating in the battle is the beginning of a new history for this great nation whose sacrifices for victory deserves immense appreciation.

Army Commander Addresses Reporters East of Basra*JN021709 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1646 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] East of Basra, 2 Mar (INA) — The commander of the III Army Corps has said that during the battle which began last Wednesday night and ended yesterday in the III Army Corps sector, the enemy lost 13,000 dead. At a news conference he held today in one of the front's positions east of Basra for a great number of Arab and foreign reporters, the commander said that the enemy losses may exceed this figure because of the minor battles that were fought in certain pockets and small areas on the front. The commander also said that armored formations from the III Army Corps took part in the battle and attacked the enemy in narrow paths in the prohibited zone.

Answering a question on the reasons behind the strength of the Iraqis, the commander said that there are many reasons for Iraq's heroic steadfastness such as the well prepared Iraqi positions and the Iraqis' conviction that they are defending their borders with the spirit of those who are confident of eventual victory. The Iraqis are also well trained on their good weapons.

The reporters, press correspondents, and television photographers left for the battlefields to see the corpses of the Iranian soldiers and their destroyed equipment.

Spokesman on Targets in Khark Island Area*JN021933 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1854 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) — Iraq has reaffirmed its determination to strike at any naval target that approaches Khark Island or any Iranian port. This came in a statement by an Armed Forces General Command spokesman this evening. The spokesman renewed his warning to the transport companies and all states in the world that they should not approach the island or the Iranian ports. The source added that Iraq will desist from striking at the loading facilities on the island at present in the

hope that the Iranian rulers will listen to reason and give Iraq the same opportunity to use its ports and the Arab Gulf. He said that Iraq will continue to tighten its siege around and intensify its strikes on Khark Island and the Iranian ports.

The spokesman said: Since we announced our blockade of the area on Monday, Iraq dealt two main blows to the ships and oil tankers that were heading toward Khark Island and the Bandar-e Khomeyni port. A number of oil tankers and commercial ships were destroyed.

The spokesman said that some quarters tried to impose a blackout on these Iraqi strikes. These quarters tried to exploit the wording of an Iraqi official statement which was issued on Monday and which said that the strikes were aimed at targets in the Khark Island area. These quarters said that the island was not hit. Iraq did not say that the strikes were aimed against the island but against oil tankers heading toward it.

The spokesman said that the admission by the Lloyds Insurance Company proves beyond any doubt that Iraq's effective means have hit a number of oil tankers that were heading toward Khark Island. He said that yesterday's strikes against a number of Iranian oil tankers and ships proves Iraq's ability and superiority in this field.

The spokesman said that in case the Iranian rulers insist on pursuing their policy of aggression, Iraq will be forced to deal destructive blows to the loading facilities at Khark island. He added that the Iraqis and others know perfectly well that Iraq possesses the means and the capability commensurate with its statements.

Navy Commander Warns Ships in Khark Zone*JN031330 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1220 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Basra, 3 Mar (INA) — The commander of the naval force and coastal defense has said that the Navy, in cooperation with the Air Force, will accurately and effectively implement an economic siege on the Iranian regime.

In a statement to INA in the southern sector, he emphasized Iraq's ability to inflict the largest possible losses on this regime. He added that the Iraqi Navy's strong arm will reach any ship that does not abide by the warning of the Armed Forces General Command. He said that businesses must be aware of this fact and should take no more risks, because once they continue to deal with the Iranian regime they will face only definite loss.

Regarding the destruction of the enemy naval targets the day before yesterday, the commander of the naval force and coastal defense said: The blow coincided with the Iraqi forces' great victories in the III and IV Army Corps sectors. He added: The Iraqi Navy has taught the Iranian Navy eloquent lessons.

He pointed out that the declared zone of operations is being closely watched — technically, visually and by other means. He added that even the smallest details of the enemy's assembly of its convoys are also being watched. He said that the enemy imagined that it was not watched or exposed and that it would

slip out cargo ships carrying weapons and equipment. Some of these ships were also carrying aircraft fuel, so we believe. All of these ships were guarded by two warships.

He emphasized that the Iraqi Navy struck at and completely paralyzed the enemy convoy in an unprecedented manner.

He added: The enemy tried to rescue one of the ships carrying important and expensive equipment, but the ship that tried to approach the hit target was also hit that same afternoon.

He indicated that this battle destroyed 80 percent of the ships in the convoy. This, he said, is the best proof of the accurate implementation of the Armed Forces General Command's warnings.

He said that the Iraqi Navy has hit more than 150 ships and tankers of various sizes since the beginning of war. He added that many of the states and international institutions concerned in sea transportation have admitted this. These are headed by the Lloyds Insurance Company, which has so far admitted the destruction of about 55 ships. The other ships are either owned or chartered by Iran, or are uninsured ships belonging to other countries according to special contracting conditions. Therefore, these countries did not identify themselves.

He stressed that these strikes have adversely affected the export of Iranian oil.

Commanders Expect Major Iranian Offensive

JN041622 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Basra, 4 Mar (PETRA) — Responsible Iraqi military sources have confirmed to the PETRA correspondent in Baghdad the Western reports which say that Iran is in the process of completing its final preparations to launch a new offensive against Iraq. All signs indicate that the size of this offensive will be very large in an attempt by Iran to rehabilitate its forces which were defeated in the battles waged east of Basra after sustaining about 50,000 dead.

Staff Major General Mahir 'Abd ar-Rashid, commander of the Iraqi III Army Corps, which is stationed to the north and east of Basra, said: The Iraqi forces are fully prepared to confront any Iranian offensive, regardless of its size. He emphasized that the Iraqi Army will wipe out the invading forces and completely destroy their weapons so that the hour at which the war can end will draw nearer.

The commander of the Al-Muthanna forces said that Iran will not be able to penetrate Iraq's international borders no matter how many regular forces or volunteers it mobilizes. He added: It is true that according to military calculations everything is possible, but they will pay a heavy price and we will not allow them to desecrate Iraq's soil.

The commander of the Qutaybah forces said: We are looking forward to further fighting in order to teach the aggressors new lessons in valor and courage which characterize our fighters.

A high-ranking field officer in the Badrah area on the Iraqi-Iranian border said: We will confirm to the entire world that penetrating our international borders will be more than impossible, and we will use all weapons to wipe out the invaders. He called on the Iranian people to avoid sending their sons to the battle of death.

The military commanders were talking to a PETRA correspondent at the forward battlefronts.

From a forward Iraqi military observation post, the Iranian forces appear to be preparing for a long-term battle, because the first phase of the the decisive offensive, as described by Iran, had ended in complete failure. These forces are now seeking to begin the second phase of their offensive, which will depend this time on huge human concentrations that might total half a million soldiers and volunteers. Earlier, the staff major general, commander of the Iraqi III Army Corps, announced that Iran is seeking to recruit 20 million fighters against Iraq, as its media put it.

All along the front, the Iranian forces have begun to install huge fortifications and to reorganize themselves in large formations that are supported by modern Soviet, U.S., and European-manufactured weapons. It was also noticed that Iran used civilian cars for transporting what it calls volunteers, for supply operations, transporting ammunition, and for deploying forces. Japanese-manufactured civilian vehicles are also opening military routes and erecting ramparts. It was also learned that Iran has acquired large quantities of weapons from some European and Asian countries including U.S.-manufactured missiles and planes. The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH*, which was issued today, said that Iraq would use weapons it had never used before to crush and bury the invading forces on the front. The newspaper also called on all the world states to interfere immediately to stop the Iranian aggression on Iraq which threatens world peace. The official newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* also said that Iraq's deterrent force is escalating day after day, and that Iran should spare its peoples certain disaster.

Iranian Claim on Downing of Plane Refuted

JN041739 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1725 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied that an Iraqi aircraft was downed in the southern sector today as Iran claims. In a statement to INA today, the spokesman said that today's communique by the Armed Forces General Command clearly indicates that all our fighter planes and helicopter gunships returned safely to base after carrying out their raids on the Iranian positions.

Commander Denies Use of Chemical Weapons

JN051026 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] East Tigris, 5 Mar (INA) — Staff Major General Hisham Sabah Fakhri, commander of the east Tigris forces, has stated that he expects the Iranian regime to launch a new offensive against Iraq's international borders.

During his meeting with Arab and foreign radio and television correspondents today, Fakhri said that the Khomeyniite regime has not learned any lessons from the recent attacks by its forces against the sectors of operations east of Basra and Maysan and in the Huwayzah marshes, although it had sustained huge losses which, according to military estimates, amount to 50,000 dead that had been counted on the battlefield and 150,000 wounded, not to mention the material damages inflicted by the intensive Iraqi shelling deep inside enemy territory.

The east Tigris forces commander said that his forces destroyed four Iranian divisions which had succeeded in infiltrating various distances into the Huwayzah marshes during an offensive which began on the morning of 27 February and lasted 48 hours.

The Iraqi military commander added that the Iranian military command committed a fatal mistake when it imagined that by pushing successive waves of its forces, it would be able to settle the issue on the battlefield in its interest and did not foresee the nature of the Iraqi forces' reply which surprised the Iranian command.

The commander said that the Iranian forces' first surprise was the heroic confrontation by the inhabitants of the marshes — men, women, and Popular Army elements who inflicted heavy losses on the Iranian forces. He added that this had a great effect in dampening the morale of the Iranian soldiers. The commander of the east Tigris forces said that new surprises will be waiting any adventure that the Iranian forces may carry out against Iraq's international borders. He said: Khomeyni wants this battle to be the decisive battle. Let it be so because our people and Armed Forces are now more prepared than ever to inflict a humiliating defeat on the aggressors and to destroy their war machine.

In reply to a question on Iran's claims that the Iraqi forces had used chemical weapons, the commander of the east Tigris forces said: In defending our land we used conventional weapons which are internationally acknowledged. The heavy casualties sustained by the forces of invasion are due, and the Iranian military commanders know this, to the intensity of the Iraqi forces' fire directed at an area where the Iranian forces were present in addition to the rough terrain on which the battle took place.

Staff Maj Gen Hisham Sabah Fakhri stressed that his forces are in full control of the area which extends along the Huwayzah marshes as far as the international borders and that his forces have captured large numbers of prisoners who wandered into the Huwayzah marshes after losing contact with their rear units.

The commander also said that his forces captured Syrian weapons used by the Iranian forces. He added: This shows how low the rulers in Damascus will go and their betrayal of the Arab nation.

The correspondents earlier visited the Iraqi village of Al-Baydah in the center of the Huwayzah marshes that had witnessed the barbarism of the Iranian forces which had completely destroyed the village in retaliation for the heroic stand by the inhabitants of this village who confronted the forces of aggression with the

small arms that they had in their possession. The correspondents also saw what remained of the Iranian bodies which were littering the area around the village and the center of Huwayzah marshes.

Dailies Threaten Iran With New Strikes, Weapons *JN030719 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0655 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Mar (INA) — The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* says: If the Iranian rulers persist in their reckless and aggressive policy, the [Iraqi] naval and air forces will not be satisfied by striking at the naval targets which approach Khark Island and other ports, but will deliver blows to the island's loading facilities.

In its editorial today, the paper adds: The Iranian rulers and those dealing and cooperating with them should well understand the meaning of this decisive Iraqi warning. It affirms that Iraq possesses the means and potential to practically implement this warning.

The newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, in turn, calls on the Iranian rulers to choose between the road of a just and honorable peace that is sponsored by the international bodies and the bitter defeat chasing them at the battlefronts.

The paper adds that Iraq will be forced to employ new weapons and methods when necessary and at the proper time — weapons and methods with which the Iranian rulers have never before been familiar.

Television Shows Film on Recent Battles *JN021953 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) — A short while ago, Baghdad television showed a film on the Iraqi forces' battles in the III Army Corps sector. The film showed a large number of Iranian POW's, amounting to more than 2,000, who were captured during the battles that were finished this morning.

The television also showed another film on the Iranians who were killed during the same battles which took place in the same sector yesterday. The film showed the bodies of the killed Iranians filling the battlefield.

UK Denies Selling Chemical Weapons to Iraq *LD041455 LONDON PRESS ASSOCIATION* *in English 1426 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] The Foreign Office today denied that it had sold chemical weapons to Iraq for use against Iran in the Gulf war.

Tehran radio claimed that Britain had sent planes, tanks and weapons worth millions of pounds to Baghdad, and that internationally-banned chemical weapons were the most recent arms to be supplied.

The official Iranian news agency, IRNA, has claimed that during recent fighting 1,000 men were injured by Iraqi "chemical bombs". It stated that 16 of the more seriously injured were sent to Sweden and Switzerland for treatment and about 100 others were being treated in Tehran hospitals.

But the Foreign Office said today: "We are neutral in the conflict. We have not supplied any lethal equipment to either side. Allegations to the contrary are untrue.

"We have not supplied any chemical weapons, or equipment for use in their manufacture, to Iraq".

INA: Iran Reportedly Executes 25 Military Men

JN030603 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0510 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Mar (INA) — Press reports published here today emphasize that the Iranian regime has recently executed 25 Iranians holding various military ranks in the wake of the failure of the Iranian offensives east of Basra.

According to information received from Iran, the newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* says that these military men were executed in the Salehabad Camp in Tehran. It adds that 2 days ago an armed opposition group attacked the house of Khomeyni's representative in the city of Urumiyeh [Reza'iyyeh] with RPG's, inflicting massive material damage.

EEC's Gaston Thorn Completes Visit to Amman**Arrives 2 March**

*JN022002 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Text] Gaston Thorn, President of the EEC Commission, accompanied by his wife, arrived in Amman this evening on a 3-day official visit to Jordan. Thorn will hold talks with the foreign minister and the industry, commerce, and tourism minister. He will also meet with ambassadors of EEC countries in Amman.

Thorn is also accompanied by an official delegation that includes the deputy secretary general of the EEC Commission, the representative of the EEC delegation, and the general director of development in the EEC, as well as a number of officials.

The delegation was met by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, the director of the National Planning Council, the Foreign Ministry's secretary general, the director of the political department in the Foreign Ministry, and the head of the European section in the Ministry. Also present at the reception were the French ambassador and the representative of the EEC delegation in Amman.

Meeting With Al-Masri

*JN031356 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] During his meeting today with EC Commission President Gaston Thorn, who is currently visiting Jordan, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri called on the EEC to contribute more positively to efforts aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the Middle East issue by declaring a new initiative, one that is consistent with the known international proposals for resolving the crisis in the region and acceptable to all parties concerned with finding a peaceful solution to the crisis.

The minister also briefed Thorn on the latest developments in the crisis in the region and Jordan's position on them. They also discussed the cooperation between the EEC and the Arab group in the area of increasing trade exchange and means of promoting economic cooperation between the two groups.

Crown Prince Receives Thorn

*JN031540 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] Amman, 3 Mar (PETRA) — Crown Prince Hasan today received in his office EC Commission President Gaston Thorn, who is currently on an official visit to Jordan. His highness briefed the guest on the situation in the occupied territory and Israel's settlement measures which aim to Judaize the region and empty it of its Arab inhabitants. The discussion also dealt with the cooperation between Jordan and the EC and adequate means of strengthening it.

King Receives Visitor

*JN040754 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur last night received in An-Nadwah Palace Gaston Thorn, president of the EEC Commission, together with, his wife, and the delegation accompanying him on his 3-day visit to Jordan. During the meeting, his majesty reviewed developments of the situation in the Middle East and efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just settlement in the region. His majesty explained the Jordanian and Arab bases for achieving peace in the region, which are centered on achieving Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967 and safeguarding the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. His majesty also stressed the importance of a positive European role in the quest for a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

The meeting was attended by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Court, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the foreign minister, and their wives, as well as Information Minister Layla Sharaf and the EEC representative in Amman.

Thorn Leaves for Cairo

*JN041300 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] Cairo — President of the EEC Commission Gaston Thorn arrived in Cairo today on a 4-day visit to Egypt. Thorn will hold talks with Egypt's Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali on the Middle East problem, the Lebanese and Palestinian issues, and bilateral relations.

Thorn left Amman this morning after a 3-day visit.

AR-RA'Y on European Role

*JN040956 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Arabs and the European Community" *AR-RA'Y* says: The visit by President of the EEC Commission Gaston Thorn to our country raises the question of whether the countries of the Community are really serious in carrying out an effective role that will help move the Palestinian question toward a just solution and in avoiding the great dangers threatening the region, or do the countries of the community still think that they have done their duty by issuing the Venice declaration some years ago.

AR-RA'Y adds: No one denies that this declaration was a step that raised hope at the time of the appearance of a constructive European role in the region, but this step was not completed and the Venice declaration remained words on paper. The U.S. Administration and Israel passed over it and ignored it.

What is surprising is that the European Community, for a long time, chose to leave the arena to only the U.S. role, which is biased toward Israel. This led to a deterioration that is still being witnessed in the region, both in the occupied territories and in Lebanon. The European Community countries took part in the U.S. role in Lebanon and supported that role with the Multinational Force, but the situation in the Lebanese arena deteriorated and led to the successive departure of those forces, while a real European role expressing the European will has not materialized.

Naturally, the Arabs do not expect the European Community to assume a role like their own toward their cause. But they do expect the Community to adopt a clear position in putting a limit on Israeli intransigence that threatens the region with more dangers, especially since the credibility of the U.S. role has collapsed and its failure and bias have become evident.

AR-RA'Y adds: When France insisted on guaranteeing the safe passage of the Palestinian fighters from Tripoli, in cooperation with Egypt, the illusion, encouraged by the U.S. Administration, that there is no room for any role in the region except for the U.S. role collapsed. France succeeded in doing this despite U.S. feebleness and Israeli threats to finish off those fighters. Through this French action, the claim that it was possible to shape events in the region only through the U.S. and Israeli administrations has been proved to be false.

AR-RA'Y says: There is no doubt that the European Community knows this fact as well as the Arabs do. This is why it is not strange that the Arabs await a practical manifestation of European credibility on the Palestinian question. This requires serious efforts on the diplomatic and political levels to break the U.S.-Israeli siege around the question and to abide by the comprehensive and just solution to the problem that will restore peace and stability to the region.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The time has come for the European Community to move in a way that stresses its understanding and conviction that peace in the region is not a hostage in U.S. and Israeli hands, and that the Community is really concerned about justice and stability in the region and is aware that the dangers can also affect the European arena itself.

PLO-Jordanian Committee Resumes Meetings

*JN041518 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1425 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] Amman, 4 Mar (PETRA) — The Jordanian-Palestinian committee resumed its meetings this morning. It reviewed and approved the proposed agenda. It also discussed in detail the financial situation of the fund for bolstering steadfastness and adopted a number of decisions concerning the preparation of a financial plan for the fund to implement the fund's programs in accordance with specific priorities. It also decided to form subcommittees to assess the activities for bolstering steadfastness during the previous phase and to submit recommendations regarding the organization of work for the coming phase. The committee will resume its current session tomorrow morning.

Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister, led the Jordanian side, which comprised Shawkat Mahmud, minister of occupied territories, and Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry, trade, and tourism. Hamid Abu Sittah, head of the PLO's Department of Occupied Homeland Affairs, led the Palestinian side, which comprised Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; Dr Hanna Nasir, PLO Executive Committee member; and Brigadier General 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee representative in Jordan.

3 March Session

*JN031726 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] The Palestinian-Jordanian committee held a meeting in Amman today to discuss ways to bolster the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the occupied homeland. Hamid Abu Sittah, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the PLO's Department of Occupied Homeland Affairs, led the Palestinian side. The Jordanian side was led by Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and minister of interior.

The committee will discuss the requirements of steadfastness for the Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories, means of transporting agricultural and industrial products through Jordan to the Arab states, improvements in serving the citizens through the Palestinian institutions, and support for development projects that provide work opportunities for Palestinian citizens.

The committee also had held a meeting during brother leader Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat's] presence in Jordan last week.

Joint Delegation to Algeria

JN050953 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 5 Mar 84 p 1

[By 'Afifah Kaluti]

[Text] Amman — The First of a number of special Jordanian-Palestinian committees to tour Arab capitals to raise funds to support the people living under the Israeli occupation is expected to begin its mission by mid-March.

The Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee to support the Steadfastness of the People Living under Occupation tentatively decided Sunday to despatch the first delegation for Algeria which will include Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Jawad al-'Anani from the Jordanian side and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), told the *JORDAN TIMES*. [sentence as published]

The decision to assign delegations to tour various Arab countries was decided during the first meeting of the committee's 25th session held in Amman last Tuesday.

The Arab countries to be visited are those which were committed by the Baghdad Arab summit of 1979 to provide financial assistance to the Arab fund for supporting the steadfastness of people living under Israeli occupation.

The joint committee, in its second meeting Sunday, discussed in detail the financial situation of the fund as well as adopting resolutions regarding the preparation of a financial plan for the fund to execute programmes in accordance with priorities.

Mr. al-Wazir told the *JORDAN TIMES* that priorities will be given to Jerusalem in implementing the fund's projects. "We should give importance to efforts to solve the difficulties facing the Jerusalem region in supporting individual and collective housing" in the occupied city, Mr. al-Wazir said.

Sunday's meeting, which was co-chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sulayman 'Arar and Hamid Abu Sittah, a member of the PLO Executive Committee and director of the organisation's Occupied Territories Affairs Department, for the Jordanian and Palestinian sides respectively, also decided to form subcommittees to assess the committee's previous activities and to adopt recommendations for future plans.

Mr. al-Wazir said the committee will exert all possible efforts to secure financial resources for the implementation of its programmes.

The joint delegations' tour aims at "urging Arab countries to honour their commitments made at the Baghdad summit," he said.

The other delegations, apart from the one formed Sunday, have not been named yet, Mr. al-Wazir said.

"It is not yet decided who are to go and when," he said.

The delegation to visit Algiers not only will seek financial support but will also "acquaint Algeria with the difficulties faced by the people under occupation as a result of the arbitrary measures practised by the Israeli occupation authorities," he said.

The delegation will also give a detailed account on the committee's various activities in supporting the steadfastness of the people under occupation, Mr. al-Wazir said.

Sunday's meeting of the committee was attended by Dr. al-'Anani, minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmud, Mr. al-Wazir, PLO Executive committee member Hanna Nasir, and PLO representative in Amman 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya.

The committee will resume its meetings Monday.

Chief of Staff on Mideast Strategic Foundation

GF041050 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Mar (WAKH) — Staff Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Hadi al-Majali, Jordanian Army chief of the general staff, has said that a group of Jordanian military personnel agreed to establish an Arab foundation for strategic studies which they named the Middle East Foundation for Strategic Studies, to be headquartered in Jordan. In a statement to the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* published today, Lt Gen al-Majali said that the goal of this foundation is to provide strategic studies

and research and to contribute its long military expertise to the development of armies in the Third World countries, particularly the armies of the Arab states.

He explained that this foundation, which is considered the first of its kind in the Middle East and perhaps in the Third World, will work mainly in military fields and in the field of building, developing, and using the forces on the bases of independent Arab thought. It will be completely dedicated to the task of providing counsel, studies, research, and assistance to military commanders and officials.

He pointed out that the duties of the new foundation are divided into two parts: The first is related to developing forces and providing studies in the fields of building new armies, reorganizing them, arming them, assigning them ordinary and special tasks; developing training methods; establishing military institutes; and providing specialized military experts as required. The second part of its duties is related to the use of the forces with regard to analyzing the general strategic situation of any geopolitical region; proposing recommendations on the role of the armed forces in any particular region; deducing war policy (combat ideology) for any armed force within the Third World countries; providing studies related to strategic organization and mobilization of various weapons; providing studies for cooperation among the armies of neighboring or allied countries; and supervising the implementation of any of the development or employment studies.

As for the administration of the foundation, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Hadi al-Majali said that most of its staff are retired Jordanian Armed Forces officers who served in command levels of various formations, who have no less than 25 years of experience, and possess competence and high levels of military knowledge; who participated in Jordan's military experience and its readiness to learn from military experiences in the world and their practical application; and who have sufficient technical and practical military experience to enable the foundation to offer counsel. He added that the foundation and its members adhere to the principle of the military profession being removed from ideologies.

The foundation's chairman stressed that the reasons which led some military commanders to establish this foundation was to benefit from the capabilities of Arab military commanders who have long experience in this field in order to develop the Arab armed forces. He pointed out that Arab military expertise is at least equal to, if not greater than, foreign expertise.

He added that the foundation will act to unite Arab military thought by providing studies and counsel that will unite the Arab leaders and peoples.

Hasan, Others Address Water Resources Symposium

JN021253 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan today affirmed that the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without a fair solution to the Palestinian question. He said no solution can succeed without giving the

Palestinian people the right to self-determination on their national soil.

Opening a seminar on Israeli designs for Arab water resources, Prince Hasan said the right to self-determination for Palestinians includes the right of that people to their human, water, and economic resources. He said these rights are inseparable and cannot be divided.

Prince Hasan said the Israeli aggressions on the Arabs have affected water resources in the area, as world Zionism exploited these sources in settling Jewish immigrants in Palestine. Noting the strong link between water and land, Prince Hasan said Israel has spared no effort in its attempts to destroy that link. The prince noted that despite the Israeli aggressions, Jordan had managed to do all it could to use water resources of the River Jordan. He said Jordan had implemented an integrated development plan in the Jordan valley which is seen an example of how water resources could best be used in the area.

Prince Hasan went on to say that confronting the Israeli dangers on Arab water resources is a pan-Arab responsibility because the Israeli threat poses hazards against all Arab nations. He called on participants in the seminar to conduct an in-depth study of the water situation in the region and the present and future uses of water resources as well as their relation to repeated Israeli aggressions.

The seminar then was addressed by former Arab League Secretary General Mr Mahmud Riyad, who reviewed Israeli plans to use water resources for bringing more Jewish immigrants into the occupied Arab territories. He said Israel encroached twice on the rights of the Palestinian people — first when it expelled them from their homeland and second when it deprived them from the use of the water of the River Jordan. He said Israel would not stop its aggressions on Arab countries and its threats against Jordan would increase, especially as it claims that it has the right in the waters of the Yarmuk River.

Mr 'Abd al-Majid Farid, president of the Arab Research Center in London, addressed the seminar, saying that Israel seeks to change the demographic character of the occupied Arab territory with view to evicting the indigenous population. He said Israel's illegal exploitation of Arab water resources represents a great political, economic, and strategic aggression. President of Yarmuk University Dr 'Adnan Badran said Israel was still planning to seize new Arab water resources to settle new immigrants.

The opening of the seminar was attended by the Information Minister Mrs Layla Sharaf and the Minister of Public Works Mr Ra'if Najm. The seminar has been organized by the Arab Research Center in London and Yarmuk University.

Qatari Foreign Minister Makes Brief Visit

JN032052 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamad Al Thani arrived in Amman this evening on an official visit to Jordan. His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, chief chamberlain; the Qatari ambassador in Amman; and the embassy staff received him at the airport.

Received by Husayn, Departs

JN041630 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace today Qatari Foreign Minister Shaykh Suhaym ibn Hamd Al Thani.

The Qatari foreign minister left Amman this evening after a 2-day visit to Jordan. His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, the chief chamberlain, and the Qatari ambassador in Amman saw him off.

Military Court Ratifies Treason Sentence

JN041525 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Amman, 4 Mar (PETRA) — The martial law administrator has ratified the martial law court's decision to sentence 'Ali Muhammad 'Ali Safi as-Sulaybi to 10 years of hard labor on charges of contacting and dealing with the Israeli enemy.

17 May Agreement With Israel Abrogated*NC051247 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1247 GMT
5 Mar 84*

[Text] Shafiq Munayminah, the secretary general of the cabinet, has announced that the cabinet has abrogated the 17 May agreement.

Cabinet Meets Under Al-Jumayyil*NC051020 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT
5 Mar 84*

[Text] The cabinet held its session at B'abda Palace at 1125 today under the chairmanship of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and all the ministers, except Health Minister 'Adnan Muruwah, who is in Damascus attending the Arab health ministers conference.

The session is historic and decisive in terms of the homeland level. The session was preceded by a separate meeting this morning between President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister al-Wazzan. The ministers joined them at 1030.

The cabinet session is still in progress to discuss the latest developments in Lebanon preparatory to adopting decisive resolutions to save Lebanon. The most important of these decisions will be the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

Government Source on Abrogation*NC021826 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English
1745 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] This evening a senior Lebanese Government official told Radio Free Lebanon that the Lebanese-Syrian talks which included a 6-hour private meeting between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad have led to understanding on the abrogation of the accord of May 17 with efforts to reach some kind of security arrangements with Israel. According to informed sources, during his awaited speech to the Lebanese people, President al-Jumayyil will use the expression "substitution for" rather than "cancellation of" the agreement.

President al-Jumayyil will also make contacts with the local, regional, and foreign parties concerned in the agreement. The government source adds that the national dialogue will be resumed at the city of Montreux in Switzerland during the coming few days and that this resumption will be followed by the formation of a government of national union.

Answering a question about whether President al-Jumayyil has returned from Damascus with a specific plan for Syrian withdrawal, the Lebanese Government source said that this question was the subject of a key Lebanese demand, but that the Syrian attitude remained unmodified, namely insisting on a complete Israeli withdrawal from all Lebanese territory. The source added that after such an Israeli withdrawal the Syrian forces will be regrouped in certain Lebanese regions but only after the formation of a government of national union in the sense understood by the Syrian regime.

Finally, the source said that the Syrian attitude toward the questions in Lebanon was open to improvement and that after the president's visit to Syria the Syrian regime will in no way carry out or permit any military escalation leading to an invasion or changes on the ground. Further, Syria did not favor any return of the Palestinian organizations to West Beirut.

The government source said that the president's visit to the Syrian capital had been intended precisely to prevent further deterioration and invasions on the ground.

Al-Jumayyil Chairs 'Appraisal' Meeting 4 Mar*NC042115 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil chaired an appraisal meeting at the Presidential Palace in B'abda tonight. Minister Elie Salim, Jean 'Ubayd, and Dr Wadi' Haddad, presidential adviser for national affairs, attended. Political developments and the progress of the dialogue process were reviewed at the meeting.

Official Sources on Salim's Talks in Damascus*NC042140 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] Informed official sources said that the discussion of the topics dealt with at the Lebanese-Syrian summit were completed during the meeting of Minister Elie Salim and Jean 'Ubayd with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus today. Minister Salim briefed his Syrian counterpart on the atmosphere of the discussions he held with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. Minister Salim then went to the Sheraton Hotel lounge where he met with Narwan Hamadah, Khalid Junblatt, Muhsin Dallul, 'Abdallah al-Amin, and 'Asim Qansuh.

After this meeting, Minister Salim and 'Ubayd met again with Minister Khaddam and then left for Beirut where they met with President al-Jumayyil and briefed him on the results of their discussions with Minister Khaddam and the Lebanese sides. Minister Salim contacted Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and put him in the picture.

The sources added that Minister Salim's visit to Damascus focused on the resumption of the discussion of the issues which were raised during the Lebanese-Syrian summit, including the 17 May agreement, in order to unite views on dealing with this matter. The visit was also an occasion to clarify some points which were raised during Minister Salim's visit to Saudi Arabia. The same sources emphasized that there was a great similarity of views regarding the basic issues which were raised during the Lebanese-Syrian discussions.

Regarding the second round of the Geneva conference, the sources said the discussions with Minister Khaddam and the Lebanese sides in Damascus showed the need to hold this round as soon as possible. In conclusion, the sources said a Lebanese-Syrian understanding has been reached on tackling all pending issues in a reasonable and sound way.

Qansuh on Impending Cease-Fire

NC042150 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] After the meeting held in Damascus this afternoon between the Lebanese opposition leaders and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, 'Asim Qansuh [secretary of the Ba'th Party Regional Command in Lebanon] said that the results of the discussions were very positive, that it has been decided to declare a comprehensive cease-fire in Lebanon in the next few hours, and that it has been further decided that President Amin al-Jumayyil should officially announce the abrogation of the 17 May agreement in a few hours.

Qansuh added that the National Dialogue Conference will be resumed in Switzerland on 12 March and that all parties concerned have agreed to attend.

Foreign Minister Returns From Damascus Visit

NC041624 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and John 'Ubayd arrived in Beirut a short while ago. They are now briefing President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil on the outcome of their talks in Damascus.

Official Sources Reveal 'Positive' Summit Results

NC022147 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT
2 Mar 84

[Text] Official sources revealed tonight that the Lebanese-Syrian summit has achieved many positive results which will contribute to the gradual restoration of normal conditions. The summit also opened a new page between Lebanon and Syria, which will be beneficial to the two countries. These sources added that some of the results will be achieved very soon and others will follow successively. Among the results are:

1. A comprehensive cease-fire throughout Lebanon is expected to be announced within hours following the consultations taking place in Damascus with Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, and the contacts taking place with [former] President Sulayman Franjyah and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami.
2. The meeting of the second round of the National Dialogue Conference within 5 days outside Lebanon, most probably in Geneva or Montreaux.
3. A discussion of the formation of a national unity government representing all Lebanese parties and the opposition. The task of such a government will be to unite the Lebanese and discuss reforms in various fields.
4. Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's assurance of support for President al-Jumayyil's efforts to achieve national reconciliation and to restore the state's prestige.

5. Damascus will contact the opposition parties to discuss with them in depth ways to resolve the outstanding problems on the security and political levels.

6. The finding of a formula to ensure the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and the holding of urgent consultations to overcome the problem of the 17 May agreement and work out security arrangements to safeguard the southern borders.

The official sources said the tete-a-tete meetings between the two Presidents were characterized by frankness, as were the meetings between Ministers Salim and Khaddam. In the bilateral tete-a-tete meetings, President al-Jumayyil focused on the internal political and security situations. The issue of the 17 May agreement was also raised in an effort to resolve the situation. The discussion also dealt with ways to ensure the southern borders and the arrangements to secure them. There was agreement on the need to carefully tackle the situation in the south to ensure the Israeli withdrawal.

The official sources added that the discussion of the 17 May agreement issue was very positive.

Lebanon has not announced any final decision, because any decision on the agreement is a Lebanese affair and must be made through the constitutional process in Lebanon and in consultations with all concerned.

The sources added that there was agreement between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad on the need to tackle the developments in Lebanon and to open a new page of cooperation between the two countries.

The official sources added there was full agreement that the Syrian side realizes the dangers facing the Lebanese arena and that it is necessary to find a formula to ensure the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. President al-Asad is prepared to support anything that can restore the effectiveness of the constitutional institutions.

The same sources revealed that the regime will hold consultations in Lebanon and abroad to find suitable formulas to resolve the Lebanese crisis, particularly security arrangements pertaining to the situation in the south. Agreement was also reached between the two presidents to tackle the issue of the displaced people caused by the recent events.

No Agreement on News Conference

NC021725 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1640 GMT
2 Mar 84

[Text] In response to reports about the news conference that President al-Jumayyil intended to hold in Damascus yesterday, a responsible source has explained that there was agreement between the Lebanese and Syrian sides that no statement will be issued and no news conference will be held pending the conclusion of the talks.

Reaction to Summit Talks in Damascus

Pierre Al-Jumayyil

*NC021542 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Text][Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has affirmed that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus and the expected good results from this visit have placed the cart on the right track, and this indicates that an end to our crisis is near.

Meanwhile, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said he is sure that President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit will be useful. He explained that the visit was scheduled after the Geneva conference when the conferees agreed that the president of the Republic should make a tour of Arab and Western states to settle the problem.

Al-Jumayyil-Franjiyah-Karami Meeting

*NC030729 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic
0709 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] The Lebanese-Syrian summit, the event of the current phase, remains at the center of attention and consultation on several levels. Within this context, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah this morning went to the Scouts Quarters in Al-Batrun, where he met with President Amin al-Jumayyil. President al-Jumayyil had earlier left B'abda Palace for the same location.

The meeting between the two presidents began at Scouts Quarters at 0800 today, and is still in progress. The meeting is being attended by Robert Franjiyah and Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi.

It is natural to say that the results of the Lebanese-Syrian summit figure as the main topic of talks under way between the two presidents.

On his part, and as we have already mentioned [in the headlines] [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami left his house in Tripoli at 0750, without his sources disclosing his destination. Meanwhile, certain sources in Tripoli said they believed [former] Prime Minister Karami might have headed for Scouts Quarters to join the meeting of President al-Jumayyil and [former] President Franjiyah before heading for Damascus today.

The latest information about this subject is that [former] Prime Minister Karami has indeed proceeded to Scouts Quarters. At 0830 he joined the meeting that had originally included President al-Jumayyil and [former] President Franjiyah.

Meeting Ends

*NC031111 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic
1030 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Attention was riverted today on the Al-Batrun Scouts Quarters where a meeting lasting 2 hours and 45 minutes was held among President Amin al-Jumayyil, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah, and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The meeting began at 0800 between Presidents al-

Jumayyil and Franjiyah, with Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi and Robert Franjiyah in attendance. At 0830 [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami joined the conferees.

President Amin al-Jumayyil briefed [former] President Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami on the outcome of the Lebanese-Syrian summit, and the steps intended to be taken in the coming phase. An exchange of views on all perspectives of the present situation also took place.

After the meeting, which ended at 1045 today, [former] President Franjiyah, accompanied by Deputy Dr ar-Rasi and Robert Franjiyah, proceeded to the convent of Our Lady of Al-Balamand in Al-Kurah. A meeting was held there with His Beatitude Patriarch Ignatius Hazim

Franjiyah Comments on Meeting

*NC040927 Ihdin Radio Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic
0700 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Interview by former President Sulayman Franjiyah to his own radio station on 3 March; place not given — recorded]

[Text][Begin recording][Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency Mr President, today, you have listened to His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil at Scouts City. Could you tell us what occurred at this meeting and if President al-Jumayyil briefed you on the outcome of the Lebanese-Syrian summit?

[Franjiyah] Following the return of President al-Jumayyil, he contacted [former] Prime Minister Karami [words indistinct] today's meeting at Scouts City. We met at Scouts City so that Al-Jumayyil could brief us on his meeting with President al-Asad. What we heard from his excellency is 100 percent reassuring for the Lebanese citizens [words indistinct]. Naturally, this meeting will be reflected [in] the positive stand which I think President al-Jumayyil will announce on (?Monday). I hope, God willing, that this stand will match the hopes of those Lebanese who covet their dignity and sovereignty.

[Reporter] Your Excellency Mr President, in your opinion, what practical steps will follow the Lebanese-Syrian summit?

[Franjiyah] We have already stated these practical steps. The first thing to do is to unconditionally abrogate the [17 May] accord. Another meeting can be held to discuss the internal matters. At such a meeting, everyone will bring a working paper for discussion and the points agreed upon can be put into practice. We can then hold a third, a fourth, a fifth meeting, until Lebanon returns back to normal. In 2 months, 9 years [of the Lebanese crisis] will have passed and we will begin the 10th. Throughout history, there have only been two wars that lasted for more than 5 years — in the Middle Ages we had a 30-year and a (?100-year) war. [sentence as heard] We are now coming out of the 9th year, and it is about time for everyone of us to sacrifice a little so that the Lebanese people can resume their historic integrity.

[Reporter] Your Excellency Mr President, can we say that the second Dialogue Conference is about to take place, and will you attend? Furthermore, what is the fate of the 17 May agreement?

[Franjiyah] If the 17 May agreement is annulled, I will certainly attend the conference — which will be very soon. However, if this agreement is not unconditionally annulled, my conscience will not permit me to take part. Taking part in such a conference will be a crime against the Lebanese.

[Reporter] Your Excellency Mr President, what would you like to say to the Lebanese, particularly the Christians, following those meetings? Are we approaching the end of the Lebanese crisis?

[Franjiyah] I would address all the Lebanese, because I do not differentiate between Christians and non-Christians — who wants to peddle his Christianity? If the 17 May agreement is annulled, I will be able to assure the Lebanese people that the end [of the Lebanese crisis] is at hand. The only thing that divides the Lebanese people is this agreement — once that disappears, trouble will be over.

Al-Jumayyil Contacts Mitterrand

*NC030636 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil contacted French President Francois Mitterrand by telephone yesterday and discussed the latest developments. They especially discussed the results of the Lebanese-Syrian summit.

Al-Wazzan, Envoy Review Situation

*NC031235 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] At noon today, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan received at his house a special envoy of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil.

They reviewed the political situation and results of the contacts which President al-Jumayyil is conducting with political leaders in Lebanon in light of his visit to Damascus and summit meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan this morning contacted former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam and Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council.

They discussed the new developments on the Lebanese arena, the results of President al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus, and what the Islamic and national stand should be regarding the results of that visit.

The prime minister also received this morning Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, acting director general of the Internal Security Forces, who briefed him on the security situation in the country, especially in the capital, and the task being carried out by the Security Forces to safeguard the citizens.

Karami Optimistic After Summit

*NC031353 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic
1130 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Statement made by former Prime Minister Rashid Karami during a news conference following the Al-Batrun 3 March summit conference — recorded]

[Text] The meeting with his excellency the president of the Republic, Amin al-Jumayyil, has taken place in light of [Al-Jumayyil's] stance that has become the sole option thus far as Lebanon's unity and Arabism are concerned. This unity and Arabism are the best means to unite the sons of one people, because they stem from a conviction, although this conviction perpetuates a reality. However, and in view of all the Zionist-imperialist plotting that has taken place, announcing this reality has become a necessary and patriotic action. Therefore, since the visit that was made to Damascus, we said this is the beginning of the end for the tribulation, and that the road to salvation has opened. Therefore, we have heralded the good tidings of optimism. We now emphasize that what has come to pass is, in fact, a historical turn that will entail other developments. These developments will occur in such a way that cooperation will be effectuated by all forces that believe in these principles. This cooperation will enable these forces to put a conclusive end to all the vestiges of the past, as well as to all the developments and dimensions of the conspiracy.

Therefore, Lebanon's return to its authenticity and reality, heritage, and real personality figure among the things that should reassure and gladden us. Hence, our conversation with his excellency, the president, was an analysis of all these given facts to discern the enormous responsibility that imposes on all the doubling of their consciousness and pooling of their resources to protect this process of faith and righteousness. Therefore, the need to protect this process imposes on all those who believe in it the need to defend it and smooth its course.

This serious, selfless, and sincere work must be advocated by all those who can bring about what they would achieve for themselves and for their country: The dignity, freedom, security, and prosperity to which they aspire. All these people must feel that the cause is their cause and that the [homeland's] interest is their interest. We all must expel from our ranks those who depart from the people's consensus or act unilaterally. We must throw them in the trash can. The reason is that history will not be merciful. Therefore, we must face up to this phase by using our solidarity and selflessness, and our faithfulness to all the factions and communities of this people.

At this point, I want to emphasize that the Christians must remain reassured, just like the Muslims must feel reassured, because we have all paid a dear price for this conspiracy. We have also learned good lessons about what we should channel toward the mainstream of national unity — we must leave no room for fear on one part and privation on the other. This is because in Lebanon, in this bountiful and loving country, all must feel that they are equal in rights and duties.

[Question] Your Excellency, Mr Prime Minister: Did the discussion at the meeting touch on the date and venue for the second Geneva conference?

[Karami] Do not expect me to tell you more than what I have said. You will learn about all the steps in due course.

PSP Radio on Summit Results

*NC031455 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
1230 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Observers have referred to contradictions in what official sources said regarding the results of Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Syria, particularly regarding the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, Lebanese dialogue, and Lebanese-Syrian relations.

The official sources implicitly admitted the failure of the experiment which led to the 17 May agreement. They also admitted that the abrogation of that agreement has become imperative, after being foiled by the national and popular struggle, and by the Lebanese national resistance. However, after confirming that Amin al-Jumayyil will immediately revoke the agreement upon his return from Damascus, these sources again linked the agreement to several conditions, which might be difficult to provide. These conditions are:

1. The holding of expanded consultations among political forces and figures and military leaders, particularly with those who reject the abrogation of the agreement with Israel. This is the excuse which the group in B'abda Palace used to disavow pledges they made during the visit.
2. The need to implement security arrangements in the south, and a certain formula to be drawn up in agreement with the United States and Israel to replace the 17 May agreement. According to official sources, this requires the holding of meetings by the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. Liaison Committee mentioned in the 17 May agreement.
3. The so-called required specific Syrian guarantees if the agreement is revoked. According to those close to Amin al-Jumayyil, those guarantees must include support for the regime and factional army. They must also include the facilitation of the so-called gradual imposition of the state's control over Lebanese territory before the rebuilding of government institutions. There must also be state control of territory before the final resolution of the question of factional domination of the regime and before the cancellation of the appointments and decrees Amin al-Jumayyil haphazardly issued in the past few months.

In this respect, it has been noticed that there are blatant contradictions which are an expression of the state of confusion in which the ruling family is living. They are also an indication of the known insistence on prevarications in dealing with the main issues of the country. These contradictions are:

A. Quoting an official Lebanese official, AFP said the abrogation of the agreement was not decided in Damascus and security arrangements will be made with Israel harmonious with Israel's security demands. The same source had earlier stated that the

abrogation of the agreement will occur in a few hours or days. In the meantime, Damascus confirmed that the abrogation of the 17 May agreement is actually a big gain that has been achieved, and that this abrogation will be effected constitutionally.

The Syrian papers said today that this gain completes the important victory represented by the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Beirut to the ships.

B. Regarding Lebanese-Syrian relations, it isn't true what some press sources said today to the effect that President Hafiz al-Asad has given Amin al-Jumayyil the freedom to choose from several options to pull the country out of the crisis. The fact is, as has been learned from informed sources, that the Syrian leadership told the Lebanese delegation that there is a distinction. This distinction is between the question of the abrogation of the 17 May agreement plus the issues which affect Syria's security, and the status of Lebanon in its own Arab environment and issues which are the subject of an internal conflict among the Lebanese. These latter issues must be discussed among concerned forces and functionaries in Lebanon.

These sources add that Syria has not requested the Lebanese regime substitute the agreement with Israel with a similar agreement or an agreement containing Israeli concessions in form only.

C. Regarding political reform and the Geneva conference, B'abda circles tried to impress upon the citizens that they are capable of finding a new gimmick in Geneva or another Swiss city. Using such a gimmick, they are consequently capable of extricating themselves from any decisions taken at this conference. This is exactly what Amin al-Jumayyil did after the first Geneva conference.

D. Regarding the conditions in the south and what is being reiterated about security arrangements to substitute the 17 May agreement, it is sufficient to refer to what Riyadh radio said today. The radio said the joint pressure which Lebanon and Syria might exert on the United States and Israel will concentrate on the Israeli forces' withdrawal and implementation of the Security Council's resolution in this respect. It is known that the Security Council has resolved that Israel must withdraw unconditionally.

Sham'un Discusses Al-Jumayyil Visit

*NC031706 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] At 1715 a meeting was held at the residence of [former] President Camille Sham'un, comprising representatives of the Lebanese Forces, a delegation of the Lebanese Monastic Order, and a delegation of the Christian League Union led by lawyer Shakir Abu Sulayman. At the conclusion of the meeting at 1810, Sham'un said the meeting was held to discuss the situation resulting from President al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus and the intention to abrogate the 17 May accord. Asked if the conferees had taken any stand in this regard, Sham'un said: "We did not take any stand because we confined ourselves to discussion only. However, we will hold another meeting, the date of which has not yet been set."

Sham'un Statement

NC022011 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1945 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Following his meeting tonight with the president, former President Camille Sham'un said he and President al-Jumayyil discussed the results of the president's visit to Syria and all current developments. He said: I need a little time to study the situation with other Lebanese parties with whom I consider myself in solidarity with, and to attempt to form a position on what must be done in the future. He added: It will be a stance in the country's interest, no more, no less. Nothing will affect our conscience but the country's interest.

Asked if he was satisfied and optimistic over his briefing by President al-Jumayyil, Sham'un said: I'm not 100 percent satisfied, but there are some positive aspects all of which follow the general situation in the country.

Salam Comments on Summit

NC031746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT
3 Mar 84

[Text] Today [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam said: We are entitled today to feel happy over the recent meeting between the presidents of Lebanon and Syria, and to view this meeting as a good start for the establishment of good and permanent relations between Lebanon and Syria for the benefit of the two countries.

He added: There is no room for victor and vanquished. In its national charter, Lebanon was founded on agreement, and Lebanon can only survive today through the agreement of its people in rational, sincere, and constructive dialogue.

He said: With the restoration of contacts with Syria, and in keeping with the principle of mutual understanding, the Lebanese are entitled today to look forward to an imminent meeting of what is called second Geneva to resume the open national dialogue away from the atmosphere of convulsion and enmity, and from the sound of bullets and shells. Therefore, I am one of those hoping something good will emerge from a second Geneva conference to be held soon, in which the start of the march of cooperation among all parties will be achieved to save Lebanon from its ordeal.

Concluding, Prime Minister Salam said: With regard to the 17 May agreement, I declared at the Geneva conference that it has become dead, and the question today is finding the best way to bury it, both politically and practically.

Lebanese Forces Warn Against Pact Abrogation

NC041248 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Although the [decision on] abrogating the 17 May agreement has almost become final, fears of repercussions of this abrogation have begun to increase. This holds particularly true because — if the agreement is indeed abrogated — this abrogation will take place on the basis of promises that do not constitute

adequate guarantees.

Today, an official political source of the Lebanese Forces again warned against the repercussions of abrogating the 17 May agreement, and against harming the progress of Lebanese-Israeli relations. The source noted that the coming phase will be one of the most serious in the Lebanese crisis. The reason is that during this phase, stances will be sorted out with courage, daring, and a sense of responsibility.

The source emphasized the need for the people's unity — within the framework of the Lebanese and Christian options.

Salim Meets with U.S. Envoy, Leaves for Riyadh

NC021419 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1411 GMT
2 Mar 84

[Text] We have just received the following: Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim left a short while ago for Saudi Arabia to meet with his Saudi counterpart Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and brief him on the outcome of the Lebanese-Syrian summit talks.

Minister Salim met with U.S. Ambassador Bartholomew at noon today.

Junblatt Wants Accord Abrogated Within '48 Hours'

NC040557 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], has called for the abrogation of the 17 May agreement within 48 hours so that Lebanon will not experience a resumption of fighting. Junblatt's warning came in a statement made by former Minister Marwan Hamadah in Damascus while the PSP leader and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri were holding talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Junblatt said the agreement should be unconditionally abrogated before Monday evening; otherwise, the Lebanese opposition will refrain from cooperating in the future. AP said it did not know if this warning was issued by Junblatt alone or by all opposition leaders.

Meanwhile, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah stated yesterday that President al-Jumayyil will announce a new stand on Monday.

RFL: Junblatt Criticizes Syria, Franjiyah

NC021318 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Political sources in West Beirut have reported that Walid Junblatt yesterday criticized the Syrian regime for the festive welcome it accorded President al-Jumayyil in Damascus. It was reported that Junblatt also criticized Syria for reaching agreement with Al-Jumayyil over certain matters without prior consultation with the National Salvation Front. The sources added that Junblatt is afraid of the rapprochement between the

Lebanese Government and the Syrian regime and of the prospect that the Christian-'Alawite relationship may return to its 1976 level.

In his attack on the Syrian regime, Junblatt did not spare his allies in the Salvation Front, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami. Junblatt found Franjiyah at fault for having arranged for Al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus. Junblatt also insinuated that following these developments there should be a reconsideration of the Salvation Front's structure.

According to Junblatt, Karami is seeking to head the coming government. Similarly, Franjiyah is attempting to restore his role and place as a prominent Christian leader.

Meanwhile, Junblatt does not want to accept any traditional political solution which ends with the formation of a government. Such a solution does not satisfy Junblatt, who regards himself as the leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] who was setting the course of events in the mountain.

The same sources quoted Junblatt as saying in front of PSP officials and his guests: What are the Druze going to tell me if all that happened in the mountain is reduced to [the formation of] a government?

Salim Back From Saudi Arabia 3 March

NC031226 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim arrived in Beirut at 1330 today after visiting Riyadh and holding talks with his Saudi counterpart, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, in the presence of mediator Rafiq al-Hariri. The talks dealt with the results of the Lebanese-Syrian summit talks. Before leaving Riyadh, Minister Salim made a statement to the SAUDI NEWS AGENCY in which he expressed thanks and gratitude to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Salim thanked the king for the enormous efforts he is making to mend the rift and unite the Arab brothers' position, as well as to pacify the situation and bring viewpoints closer among the brothers in Lebanon.

Briefs Al-Wazzan

NC041732 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Immediately upon his return to Beirut this afternoon, Foreign Minister Elie Salim telephoned Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and briefed him on the results of his visits to Saudi Arabia and Syria and the atmosphere which prevailed during these two visits.

Swiss Source on Dialogue Meeting Venue

NC031415 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Quoting a Swiss Foreign Ministry spokesman in Bern

today, AFP reports that the Swiss authorities have been informed of the desire of the Lebanese Government to hold the second stage of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference in Switzerland very soon.

The same source added that if the conference is held before 10 March, senior Lebanese political figures will meet in Montreux. But if the meeting is scheduled after 10 March, the conference will be held in one of Geneva's big hotels.

'Sources' Expect Conference 10 Mar

NC031600 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Contacts are continuing to prepare the ground for the resumption of the national dialogue and for overcoming the problems that prevent the solution of the Lebanese crisis.

Informed sources expect the dialogue to be resumed in Geneva on 10 March; however, the sources think it unlikely that the basis of representation at the conference will be expanded to include new representatives, as has been rumored.

Lebanese Ambassador to Switzerland Johnny 'Abduh has informed the Swiss authorities of the Lebanese Government's desire to resume the dialogue soon.

The sources said the senior officials have begun contacts with the parties concerned to prepare for the conference. The date of the resumption of the Dialogue Conference will officially be announced within the coming 48 hours.

France's Cheysson Arrives in Beirut 3 March

NC032217 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson arrived in Beirut tonight. He immediately headed toward the French aircraft carrier *Clemenceau*, which is anchored off the Lebanese coast. A French spokesman said the French minister will inspect the French contingent in Beirut on Sunday prior to his talks with Lebanese officials on the future of the contingent.

Cheysson Meets Al-Jumayyil

NC041209 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has received Mr Claude Cheysson, French Minister for External Affairs, with whom the president reviewed the political and security developments in Lebanon. The French minister is scheduled to proceed to the western area [of Beirut] to meet with some leaders, although Junblatt and Birri are now in the Syrian capital, where Foreign Minister Elie Salim and Jean 'Ubayd arrived unexpectedly before noon today. Immediately upon their arrival, Salim and 'Ubayd met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is expected to meet with the opposition leaders. Meanwhile, a Syrian source expected [former] President Franjiah and [former] Prime Minister Karami to arrive in the Syrian capital.

Further on Cheysson Statement

NC041352 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] At 1115 this morning, President Amin al-Jumayyil met with Claude Cheysson, French minister for external relations, in the presence of French ambassador to Lebanon, Ferdinand Wibaux. They reviewed the current Lebanese developments and the French role in Lebanon in light of the draft plan submitted to the Security Council on the dispatch of international forces to Lebanon.

The meeting lasted until 1315, following which Minister Cheysson made the following statement:

The French president sent me to meet with President al-Jumayyil to learn how the Lebanese president views the situation in the coming weeks following his visit to Damascus and the plans which, it has been reiterated, will emanate from that visit. We, the French, stand naturally on the side of Lebanon and its president, and would like to know what these plans would mean in practice.

Cheysson added: The French community in Lebanon is an important community and it wants to stay there. This community feels it belongs to Lebanon and wants to be convinced that the French Government acts with the backing of the Lebanese president and that it is in constant touch with him. I hope to meet with my Lebanese colleague [Elie Salim] this afternoon or tomorrow.

Minister Cheysson was asked: Has a final decision been taken regarding the redeployment of the French contingent in Lebanon? He answered: The statement made by the official spokesman in my name in Paris last Thursday, and which President Mitterrand has seen personally, includes the conditions for this redeployment. There is no international force in Lebanon at present, nor is there a multinational force. There is a foreign national force. This is not satisfactory, but we are holding consultations with the Lebanese authorities, as we have declared. This topic was the most important factor in the consultations which I held this morning with the Lebanese president.

The French minister was then asked: Does France still hope to obtain a Security Council resolution on the deployment of international forces in Lebanon? He answered: Regrettably, we can see no possibility of obtaining such a resolution within the next few days. The force is actually present in Lebanon. It is the UN Emergency Force. We contribute an important unit to this force. We still believe it is illogical that this force should remain where it is, and that we should not assign it the task which everyone wants in Beirut. By everyone I mean all the Lebanese forces, Lebanese Government, Syrian Government, and all governments directly concerned. Because I am optimistic, I believe all illogical things will inevitably disappear in the end.

Meets Opposition Delegations

NC041914 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson received at the French Embassy a delegation of the Supreme Shi'ite Islamic Council, comprising Dr 'Adnan Haydar, lawyer Ahmad Qubaysah, Dr Husayn Kan'an, and Ahmad Isma'il at 1800. The conferees reviewed developments and the French role in confronting the current crisis.

Minister Cheysson had earlier met for the same purpose with a delegation of the Supreme Islamic Shar'ia Council, comprising Ambassador Mahmud al-Hafiz, Muhammad Barakat, and lawyer Fayiz an-Nusuli.

This afternoon Minister Cheysson received at the French Embassy a delegation of the Amal Movement, comprising Dr Husayn al-Yatim, Dr Zuhyar Birru, Dr Mahmud Baydun, and Hasan Hashim. After the meeting, Hasan Hashim, chairman of the executive body in the Amal Movement, made the following statement:

The visit by Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, must be appreciated, especially as it is taking place under circumstances when Lebanon is in need of every international action. During the meeting, all questions related to the Lebanese issue, as well as regional and international issues, were reviewed. The discussions centered on several primary and basic matters which could serve as a good basis for placing the Lebanese question along a sound path and lead to the final sound solutions guaranteeing the homeland's safety and territorial integrity.

Hashim added that the discussions also centered on the need to proceed with the plan providing for the deployment of UN emergency forces in Beirut and consequently linking them with the UN emergency forces in southern Lebanon through their deployment along the coastal line. This would constitute international pressure through the French Government to ensure the elimination of the Israeli occupation in the south.

We have heard from the French minister of external relations a clear explanation of the French political role in Lebanon and of France's categorical rejection of any situation which would lead to the partition of Lebanon. We also heard from him about the interest of the French Government in restoring the internal equilibrium in Lebanon on new bases assimilating the new reality in which we are living.

Salim, Cheysson Discuss Developments

NC042011 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] At 2130 Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim received his French counterpart Claude Cheysson, who is currently visiting Lebanon. Current developments in Lebanon were discussed at the meeting.

Meets Greek Catholic Delegation

NC051024 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT
5 Mar 84

[Text] Within the framework of his contacts with Lebanese political leaders, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson met this morning at the French ambassador's residence in B'abda with a delegation from the Greek Catholic Higher Council, including Deputy Joseph Skaf, Deputy Nadim Salim, the council's secretary general Dr Elie 'Isa, Dr Albert Sarah, and Professor Fayiz al-Haj Shahin. After the meeting the delegation released a statement saying that views on the current situation in Lebanon were exchanged.

The Greek Catholic Higher Council will hold a meeting Tuesday afternoon at the Catholic association's headquarters in Al-Ashrafiyah to be briefed on the outcome of the meeting with the French minister.

Cheysson is due to meet later with former President Camille Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil.

Cheysson is due to leave Lebanon this afternoon. AFP says Cheysson will stop over in Cyprus where he will meet with Cypriot President Kiprinaou.

No Decision on Withdrawal

NC051218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1154 GMT
5 Mar 84

[Text] The meeting between Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson ended at 1330. Cheysson affirmed afterward that France supports President al-Jumayyil and Lebanon. He urged all parties to rally around the president. He stated that France has not as yet adopted a final decision regarding the withdrawal of the French forces from Lebanon. Cheysson said that Lebanon must survive. Further details on Cheysson's statement will be given in later newscasts.

French Envoy Visits Karami, Franjiyah

NC021340 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic
1130 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] At noon today at Zgharta Palace, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah received French Ambassador to Lebanon Mr Fernand Wibaux, who was accompanied by the commercial attache at the French Embassy, Mr (Lucien Jaufroix). President Franjiyah held a meeting with these two French officials. Later Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi joined the conferees.

The French ambassador and commercial attache of the French Embassy had earlier visited [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami in his Tripoli home for discussions on the current political situation. Following his visit to Prime Minister Rashid Karami, the French ambassador said:

[Begin Wibaux recording in French followed by Arabic translation] This is my first visit to Prime Minister Karami. By

sheer coincidence, this visit took place under political circumstances that are important for Lebanon. We have made a wide-ranging review of the situation, and Prime Minister Karami has briefed me on several matters. Furthermore, he is a moderate and wise man. [end recording]

The French ambassador answered a question regarding President al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus, saying he was not aware of the nature of the results of Al-Jumayyil's visit. The French ambassador added he might comment on the results of the visit when he learns of them. The French ambassador expressed his disappointment over the Soviet veto of the French draft resolution submitted to the UN Security Council on the dispatch of UN troops to replace the Multinational Force in Lebanon.

Nevertheless, Ambassador Wibaux added, life continues and the options for which President al-Jumayyil has settled might provide other solutions that may be to Lebanon's benefit.

Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami said:

[Begin Karami recording] I welcomed the French ambassador in Tripoli. His visit was an opportunity to review the current situation in Lebanon and Arab area. We exchanged views, which was a useful thing, because understanding the issues is the way to reach correct solutions for them.

Hence, we have always been eager to explain our viewpoints because we are a party to the issue and are aware of its features and dimensions. Our viewpoint has been and will be that a political solution is always required, and that violence does not provide a solution, but probably makes a solution more difficult.

In light of [President] Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus, and the good results anticipated from it, we feel assured that the cart has been on the right track. This augurs well that our crisis is reaching its end. Hence, all Lebanese are required to realize the importance of this historic transformation, and to ensure that it succeeds and achieves all that is expected from it, whether on the security, economic, or reform levels.

This must be a chance for all to achieve hopes and aspirations. From now on, no individual, group, or party has the right to flout these hopes and aspirations. All of us, especially the regime, must confront anyone attempting to tamper with this beneficial march. [end recording]

Resistance Men Attack Israeli Patrol Near Sidon

NC031937 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
3 Mar 84

[Excerpt] National resistance men today resumed their operations against the occupation forces. A national resistance group attacked an Israeli mechanized patrol on Jazzin Road, at (Al-Jubaylah) junction, near Sidon, with automatic weapons and grenades, wounding a number of citizens. The Israeli forces called for reinforcements and carried out searches. There has been no information regarding the number of casualties among the occupation forces. Israeli ambulances were seen moving to the area.

Israeli Casualties Reported in 2 Attacks 4 Mar*NC040800 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0749 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] It has transpired that two attacks, not one, were launched against the Israeli forces in the Sidon port area this morning; that is, approximately 30 minutes ago. The national strugglers fired a projectile on an enemy armored car, burning it together with its crew. Some 5 minutes later, an explosive device went off in an Israeli vehicle that was proceeding to the same area. The vehicle also burned together with its crew.

Our correspondent estimated the enemy casualties at six dead or wounded.

U.S. Officer Wounded; French Soldier Killed*NC050812 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 5 Mar 84*

[Text] A French soldier was killed this morning when a shell fell on a French position near As-Sanawbar Palace. This was announced by a spokesman of the French contingent. This brings the number of French casualties to 89 killed and 100 wounded. A U.S. officer was wounded in the shoulder this morning near the Riviera Hotel when unidentified gunmen opened fire on him and escaped.

Islamic Resistance Front Leader Interviewed*GF020704 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 29 Feb 84 p 17*

[Interview with Shaykh 'Abd al-Hafiz Qasim, chairman of the association of Muslim ulema and leader of the Islamic Resistance Front, by Sa'dun Safa in Beirut — date not given]

[Excerpt] Safa: What are your motives behind the establishment of the Islamic Resistance Front?

Qasim: There has been an urgent need for the Islamic Resistance Front. The aim is to organize the means of defending our people vis-a-vis the Phalangist fascist onslaught. This onslaught carries with it Zionist terrorism with the aim of taking Lebanon away from its origins after eradicating its Arab roots and isolating it from the Arab world. To counter this, we had to establish this Front so that it can take part, together with the Islamic nationalist powers, in the process of confronting the Zionist-U.S.-Phalangist plan.

As for the president's approval to scrap the ominous 17 May agreement, this agreement has already been annulled because the people did not approve it. Those who approved of it are the offices' and the embassies' employees in addition to the intelligence people who work in the government institutions. The people did not approve of it because they do not work for anybody.

They also did not approve of following the Zionist enemy who usurped a dear part of our Arab nation and our heroic steadfast south. Therefore, the president's retracted position on this accord will not make our people abrogate the agreement they reached with the gun, unless all symbols are defeated including those who rule Lebanon wrongly and who have created this very situation.

Hamadah Says Opposition Adheres to Cease-Fire*NC050844 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0800 GMT 5 Mar 84*

[Text] In an exclusive statement to the Voice of the Mountain, former Minister Marwan Hamadah said that all the parties and forces of the Lebanese opposition have adhered to the cease-fire. He said that Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt have given clear instructions to all fighters in this respect. Hamadah said that action will be taken to stabilize and extend the cease-fire through the security committee and that certain arrangements are being discussed to accompany the anticipated political solutions. Concluding his statement, Hamadah said: We hope the other parties will respect this adherence and respond to the national opposition's decision.

Opposition Drafts Joint Paper for Dialogue*NC051032 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 5 Mar 84*

[Text] Calm continues to prevail on most axes of the fighting. The Phalangist gangs, however, interrupted this calm in the Iqlim al-Kharrub, when they directed fire at Barja in the Ra's ar-Rahim area. Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, and the Lebanese nationalist forces had earlier circulated their orders for adherence to the cease-fire on all the combat axes. Within this framework, former Minister Marwan Hamadah made a statement this morning in which he affirmed the adherence of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), the Amal Movement, and the national forces to the cease-fire. Hamadah also announced that contacts are under way among the Security Arrangements Committee to revive this committee so that it can resume its work.

Hamadah met with former Minister Khalid Junblatt and PSP Deputy Leader Muhsin Dallul to assess the results of the contacts held in Damascus yesterday. The conferees telephoned Walid Junblatt, who is in Amman, and briefed him on the current atmosphere and efforts to stabilize the cease-fire. Sources among the conferees said that the second round of the Geneva National Reconciliation Conference — if it convenes — will be delayed for some time to enable the opposition leaders, who are preparing a joint national working paper, to complete their discussions.

Reportage on Efforts Toward Lebanese Agreement

Lebanese Leaders Arrive 2-3 Mar

JN031819 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT
3 Mar 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Lebanese opposition leaders have been arriving in Damascus since yesterday and are holding intensive meetings. It has been learned that these meetings aim at two things: Studying the results of the Syrian-Lebanese summit talks, and preparing a new action formula, which the National Salvation Front [NSF] and the Amal Movement might propose after the summit meeting of the NSF leaders to take place in Damascus within the next few days.

Yesterday afternoon, Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri arrived here and held a long meeting with Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. When they left this meeting late last night, journalists bombarded them with questions. Minister Khaddam had acquainted Junblatt and Birri with the results of the summit talks.

Nabih Birri said: We are still studying the situation. But we are also still holding to our old positions. We will decide on every step in light of every move taken by President al-Jumayyil. We still demand the resignation of President al-Jumayyil and the pinpointing of the responsibility with regard to what happened in the mountain and southern suburb.

Asked if it is true that the National Reconciliation Conference will reconvene in Switzerland within a few days, Birri said: These reports are not precise.

Asked if a new government will be formed representing all sectors of the population, Birri said: The formation of the government will come at the end and will be the last step.

For his part, Walid Junblatt last night renewed his call for the resignation of President al-Jumayyil for the sake of Lebanon's safety, as he said. Junblatt cited Minister Khaddam as saying that the Syrian-Lebanese summit talks were positive. Junblatt said President al-Jumayyil promised President al-Asad that he will abrogate the 17 May agreement, but that he has not set a date.

Junblatt added, verbatim: If this is what Al-Jumayyil has promised the Syrians, then let us wait and see what will happen and how and when it will happen.

Asked about the repeated reports regarding a cease-fire agreement, Junblatt said: For our part, we are ready to stop firing. But the Army and Phalangist militias must observe and honor the cease-fire first. We will not stop unless they stop first.

Meetings continued throughout the day today between Birri and Junblatt. These meetings were attended by many opposition figures. Muhsin Dallul, deputy leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], Marwan Hamadah, and Khalid Junblatt arrived in Damascus this afternoon from Beirut. Immediately upon their

arrival, they held long meetings with Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri. This evening, they met with Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. In the meantime, talks were held by other Lebanese opposition leaders. These talks were attended by 'Asim Qansuh, 'Abdallah al-Amin, George Hawi, Hikmat al-'Id, In'am Ra'd, and Mahmud 'Abd al-Khaliq. These meetings are expected to continue tonight and tomorrow morning. However, according to opposition sources, the final positions will not be declared except in light of the steps that will first be taken by President al-Jumayyil. Pending that, the opposition continues to hold to all its previous positions.

Khaddam Receives Salim, 'Ubayd

JN040913 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0855 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 4 Mar, (SANA) — In his office at 1000 today 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, and Jean 'Ubayd, adviser to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. Talks focused on the current Arab situation and the situation in Lebanon.

Al-Asad Receives Birri, Junblatt

JN041228 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] At 1230 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, and Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting.

Birri, Junblatt on Al-Asad Talks

JN041343 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1300 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad's meeting with Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri lasted for more than 2 hours. Following this meeting, Nabih Birri told journalists: President Hafiz al-Asad has put us in the real picture, which focused on the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. We are still waiting for Amin al-Jumayyil's step vis-a-vis the abrogation of the agreement. The steps we will adopt will follow Al-Jumayyil's step. Asked if he would participate in the second dialogue conference, Birri said: All this comes after the abrogation of the agreement and stems from uncontested facts. We always support dialogue. Asked if he would meet with Dr Elie Salim, Birri said: A meeting may be held at the Syrian Foreign Ministry with Elie Salim, Jean 'Ubayd, and the Syrian foreign minister. Asked whether he will attend a meeting with Dr Elie Salim, Walid Junblatt, in turn, said verbatim: I do not know. Maybe. Wait and see.

Upon the earnest request of the journalists, Junblatt said verbatim: Be patient. Pray for God to bless the prophet.

More on Al-Asad-Junblatt Meeting

*JN041530 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad today received Lebanese Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, and Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt. During this meeting, they reviewed the situation in the Lebanese arena, and the results of the talks the president held with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. The president asserted Syria's support for Lebanon in the work to end the Israeli occupation of the Lebanese territory and to achieve Lebanese national accord.

Salim, 'Ubayd Depart

*JN041628 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim and [Lebanese Presidential] adviser Jean 'Ubayd left Damascus a short while ago on their way back to Beirut after meeting for the second time with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam this afternoon.

On another level, Nabih Birri told reporters that he and Walid Junblatt had not joined Khaddam's meeting as scheduled. Birri added that during the meeting he and Walid Junblatt held with President Hafiz al-Asad today, an agreement was reached on the constitutional formula for the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. He said further: It was agreed that the abrogation should be announced by the Lebanese president and Cabinet. He added that there is no need for the abrogation to be announced by the Chamber of Deputies. Birri said this stand had been communicated to Dr Elie Salim prior to the latter's departure for Beirut.

Khaddam Receives French Official

*JN041641 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1620 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] Damascus — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received this evening Marc Bonnefous, head of the North Africa and Middle East Department at the French External Relations Ministry, who conveyed to Khaddam a message from French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson on the current situation in the region. The head of the West Europe desk at the Foreign Ministry, and the French ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Roundup of Lebanese Contacts 4 Mar

*JN041900 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT
Mar 84*

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Guarded optimism returned gradually this evening following the pessimism which prevailed throughout the last few days. This optimism came as a result of the intensive contacts held in

Damascus all day long today. The Lebanese opposition sources said there is no longer any ultimatum addressed to President Amin al-Jumayyil on cancelling the 17 May agreement within a few hours. Nabih Birri, flanked by Walid Junblatt, told reporters after his 2-hour meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad that President al-Asad has put us in the real picture, which revolves around the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. We are still waiting for Amin al-Jumayyil's step vis-a-vis the abrogation of the agreement. On the basis of specific facts we are always open for dialogue.

An official Syrian source said that during the meeting, which was attended by Foreign Minister Khaddam, the conferees reviewed the situation in the Lebanese arena and the results of talks between Presidents al-Asad and al-Jumayyil. He added that President al-Asad emphasized Syria's support for Lebanon in the work to end the Israeli occupation of the Lebanese territory and to attain a Lebanese national accord.

Regarding a cease-fire, Marwan Hamadah, in a statement to our radio a short while ago, denied reaching a cease-fire agreement at 1700 today, local time. Hamadah said neither he nor Walid Junblatt had any information in this regard. However, a Lebanese opposition source, who declined to disclose his identity, told us that as a result of today's intensive contacts, practical and final arrangements have been made to implement a comprehensive cease-fire on all axes. However, he added, this will not be implemented before President Amin al-Jumayyil announces the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, accompanied by presidential adviser Jean 'Ubayd, arrived here suddenly this morning. They were immediately received by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. It was learned that their sudden visit was connected with the ultimatum the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] addressed to the Lebanese president yesterday on the abrogation of the 17 May agreement within 48 hours, which ends tomorrow evening, Monday, or else there would be no dialogue.

Following their meeting with Khaddam, Elie Salim and Jean 'Ubayd met with Khalid Junblatt and Marwan Hamadah, in the presence of 'Abdallah al-Amin and Muhsin Dallul. This has been the first meeting between representatives of the Lebanese authority and the PSP since the first Geneva conference. During this meeting, many of the two sides' fears were dissipated. An informed source told us that as a result of this meeting there are no longer any ultimatums and that, in expectation of President Amin al-Jumayyil's announcement on the abrogation of the 17 May agreement within the next few hours, the climate of detente and optimism returned, but with maximum caution.

Following President Hafiz al-Asad's meeting with Birri and Junblatt, Birri told reporters that during their meeting with the Syrian president an agreement was reached on the constitutional formula for the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. Birri added: It was agreed that the abrogation should be announced by the Lebanese president and the Lebanese Cabinet. He added that the abrogation need not be announced by the Chamber of Deputies. Birri further said that this stand had been communicated to Dr Elie Salim. Khaddam received Dr Elie Salim and Jean 'Ubayd for the second time this afternoon and informed

them of this. However, contrary to the expectations of some circles, Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt did not join this meeting nor meet with Elie Salim, as confirmed by Birri himself.

Elie Salim and Jean 'Ubayd then left for Beirut to present a report to President al-Jumayyil on the results of their visit to the Syrian capital. A feeling of satisfaction could be detected on their faces. It was also learned that Walid Junblatt left Damascus for the Jordanian capital.

Minister Khaddam then received Marc Bonnefous, head of the North Africa and Middle East Department at the French External Relations Ministry, who conveyed to him a message from French counterpart Claude Cheysson on the current situation. A French diplomatic source told me that the message deals with the subject of withdrawing the French contingent from Beirut and filling the security vacuum resulting from that withdrawal, in addition to other issues of common interest, headed by the improvement of Syrian-French relations and an invitation for Khaddam to visit the French capital.

Khaddam then received Nabih Birri, accompanied by a large number of the Lebanese opposition leaders who took part in today's talks. Nabih Birri and his allies are expected to meet with the French envoy later tonight. Thus, the climate returned to detente and optimism, through with extreme caution, pending the official declaration of the abrogation of the 17 May agreement in Beirut within the next few hours.

Geneva Conference To Resume

JN042023 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] Following the meeting Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam held with the Lebanese opposition leaders in Damascus this afternoon, 'Asim Qansuh, secretary general of the Regional Command of the Ba'th Party [organization in Lebanon], announced that the results of the talks were very positive, that it was decided to announce a comprehensive cease-fire in Lebanon within the next few hours, and that President Amin al-Jumayyil will announce the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli 17 May agreement within a few hours. 'Asim Qansuh added that the national dialogue conference will be resumed in Switzerland on the 12th of this month and that all the concerned parties have agreed to attend.

Damascus Reports Accord Abrogated

JN051431 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT
5 Mar 84

[Text] At the end of an emergency session chaired by President Amin al-Jumayyil today, the Lebanese Cabinet decided to abrogate the Lebanese-Israeli agreement concluded on 17 May. This was announced by Beirut radio, citing a government spokesman. The Voice of the Mountain carried this news report a short while ago, and added that it was also decided to resume the national dialogue conference in Geneva next week, and to investigate the latest events and their causes.

Damascus Radio Reports 5 Mar Israeli Airraids

JN051353 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT
5 Mar 84

[Text] Beirut reports said that this morning the Zionist enemy aircraft raided the Lebanese nationalist forces' positions in the area between Bhamdun and 'Alayh and bombed Safrah school in 'Alayh and other civilian targets. The reports added that the ground defenses intercepted the Zionist aircraft. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the Israeli raids on the mountain. A report received a short while ago says that this afternoon the enemy aircraft resumed its bombardment of civilian targets in Bhamdun.

USSR's Aliyev To Visit in Early March

JN050638 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT
5 Mar 84

[Text] At the invitation of the command in the Syrian Arab Republic, Comrade Geydar Aliyev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and first deputy premier, will visit Syria in the first half of this month, March. The visit, originally scheduled to take place in the first half of February, was postponed by mutual agreement.

Iranian Foreign Affairs Official Meets With Leaders

1 March Meeting With Khaddam

GF021634 Tehran IRNA in English 1609 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, March 2, IRNA — The political deputy of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, currently here, in a meeting with the Syrian foreign minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Thursday afternoon discussed issues of the region in connection with the Iraqi imposed war. Furthermore during the meeting, which was also attended by the deputy foreign minister of Syria, the situation in Lebanon was also brought up. Sheykh ol-Eslam, who arrived here Tuesday heading a delegation, explained the situation in warfront, the recent victories scored by the Iranian forces and also despair of the Iraqi regime. He said that the regime of Saddam was defeated and would not be saved by any power including the U.S. Sheykh ol-Eslam also condemned the recent Iraqi attacks on the Iranian residential areas and deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime in the warfronts. All these indicated weakness of Saddam and his forces in warfront, he told the Syrian officials.

Meets Al-Asad 3 March

JN031415 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT
3 Mar 84

[Text] At 1345 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy under secretary of foreign affairs. 'Isam an-Na'ib, assistant foreign minister, and the charge d'affaires at the Iranian Embassy in Damascus attended the meeting. During the meeting, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam conveyed a message to the president for Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i. President al-Asad asked him to convey a reply

message and his greetings to the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The talks revolved around the situation in the region and issues of mutual concern.

Meets Khaddam, PNC Head 3 March

GF031611 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, March 3, IRNA — The political deputy of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam currently visiting Syria, met and talked with the Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, this morning. In this meeting they discussed the new moves of imperialism and Zionism in the region. The talks were the continuation of another round of talks held Thursday.

Meanwhile, Sheykh ol-Eslam met with the head of the Palestine National Congress, Khalid al-Fahum, here Friday night. During the meeting the Iranian Foreign Ministry official referring to the situation in the region and the latest developments in the Iraqi imposed war, stressed the need for continuation of armed struggle against Zionists. Referring to the process of struggle of the Muslim people of Iran, he said that the final victory of Iran over the Iraqi regime was imminent.

Al-Fahum also emphasized importance of the cooperation of all progressive and revolutionary forces of the region and added that in the light of future developments in the region he predicted a positive prospect. The Iranian Foreign Ministry official heading a delegation left Tehran for Syria Feb. 29.

Al-Kasm Meeting 4 March

JN041255 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1225 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1200 today, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian under secretary of foreign affairs. 'Isam an-Na'ib, Syrian assistant foreign minister; and the Iranian charge d'affaires in Damascus attended the meeting. Sheykh ol-Eslam conveyed the greetings of Iranian Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi to Dr Al-Kasm. The talks dealt with the current situation in the region, and the need to resist U.S. imperialist and Zionist plans in this region. They asserted the need to mobilize the potentials of the Islamic people to abort and defeat these plans. They also asserted the need to develop the existing relations between the two friendly countries — Syria and Iran. At the end of the meeting, Dr al-Kasm asked the Iranian guest to convey his greetings to the Iranian prime minister.

Meets Banking Official, Departs

GF051048 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT Mar 84

Excerpt] Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Foreign Ministry assistant for political affairs, met with Mr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Syrian prime minister, in Damascus yesterday. As part of his meetings with senior Syrian officials, Brother Sheykh ol-Eslam also met yesterday with the general manager of the Syrian

Central Bank and economic and commercial questions between the two countries were discussed. Brother Sheykh ol-Eslam and his accompanying delegation left Damascus for Tehran yesterday.

Commentaries View Lebanese, Mideast Situation

Arab Option Urged

JN021511 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, on the options that the Lebanese people have, *Al-BATH* writes the following: The current challenge in Lebanon is between the Arab option and the option that the United States and Israel are trying to impose on it. The options that the Lebanese people have in order to strengthen their Arabism, unity, and independence are numerous. All these options emanate from the peoples' methods of liberating and protecting their land and peoples. On the Lebanese territories, there are Zionist invasion forces that are linked to the Lebanese people only by direct hostility and the necessary confrontation for self-determination. Southern Lebanon is occupied and Zionist ambitions there are obvious and need no more explanation other than the slogans that Israel is trying to achieve at the expense of the Arab individual.

Because Lebanon is an indivisible part of Arabism — in terms of land, affiliation, and fate — Israel will not spare Lebanon from its aggression, whether the United States guarantees either the Shultz agreement or other complementary agreements to it. This agreement was not made to protect Lebanon from occupation, destruction, and the daily killing as much as it was a guarantee to Israel and its prospects for stealing more Arab land.

With their national and pan-Arab feelings, the Lebanese people realize that they are being placed between the Israeli hammer and the U.S. anvil. Their response to Lebanon's nationalist call was positive. They rejected the agreement of humiliation and submission, raised arms against the Zionist invaders, and chose the path through which all world peoples have passed. Israel, which forced total emigration from villages in southern Lebanon and destroyed Beirut and its cultural features in a deadly and long siege, will be rewarded only by the people raising arms against its aggression and by fiercely resisting its forces,

There is only one inevitable option in the Lebanese hand. The Lebanese homeland is in need of all its citizens. Lebanese national cohesion is as necessary as the sun and air. It must be the weapon with which the Lebanese people can face their enemies and the enemies of their nation and holy shrines. These people, who have known how to resist their enemies and carried arms against the usurpers of their land and national and pan-Arab heritage, are able to pave the road for their unity in a manner that ensures and guarantees equal rights and duties for all the Lebanese people. Furthermore, these people who have forgotten their wounds and show a readiness to hold a national and constructive dialogue, have thus responded to the true and nationalist feeling; wishing that every Lebanese individual will

be a solidier to defend the homeland and to struggle against the Zionist invasion in order to affirm with determination his adherence to his Arabism and nation.

The U.S. deceit, as practiced by the Reagan administration, has brought destruction to Beirut and the mountain area. This presents the Lebanese people with another option. Realizing that the United States will stand only on Israel's side and that Israel implements only the U.S. desires, whether on the Lebanese or on any other Arab territory, the option of Lebanon and the Lebanese people must be a nationalist one through which all the Lebanese people are obliged to be the sons of the same homeland against the one enemy, represented by the U.S.-Zionist alliance against them and against their land.

ATH-THAWRAH on Syrian Role

*JN030828 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, *ATH-THAWRAH* says: The Lebanese and Arab welcome of Syria's principled stands toward fraternal Lebanon is based on reality, not only because Syria is helping Lebanon to overcome its crisis and preserve its unity and Arabism, but also because Syria — as leader Al-Asad has emphasized — is always ready to help Lebanon and support its efforts to liberate its land from the Israeli invasion and from the restrictions and complications of this invasion.

All Lebanese have realized that the road of the United States and Israel was the road of kindling and escalating the civil war and of inciting further destruction on Lebanon and its people. The Lebanese have also realized that the road of the United States and Israel was the road of entrenching the Israeli occupation and the precursor of a multinational occupation, as well as the road of detaching Lebanon from Syria and the Arab nation.

Today, the Lebanese realize that the road of Damascus is the road of entrenching Lebanon's independence, preserving its unity and Arabism, and opening the doors for national dialogue in order to achieve accord among its people. It is the road of reforms and national reconciliation. The road of Damascus is the road of liberating Lebanon from the Israeli invasion and U.S. occupation. It is the road of eliminating all of the restrictions that check Lebanon's freedom, independence, and exercise of its cultural role within the framework of its Arab nation.

This fact is today embodied through the Lebanese and Arab welcome of Syria's principled stands toward Lebanon. It is the fact that is creating an atmosphere of optimism over the future, not only with regard to solving the Lebanese crisis and rescuing Lebanon, but also with regard to the Arab nation's future and just struggle against the Zionist aggression and the imperialist forces supporting it.

Lebanese-Syrian Summit Viewed

*JN031456 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the success of the talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has aroused the anxiety, indignation, and opposition of Israel's rulers, the Lebanese elements that are linked to Israel or to interests other than those of the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese, and the U.S. circles which had dreamed of turning Lebanon into another Guatemala or Honduras. On the other hand, all the other Lebanese who are concerned about Lebanon — people, entity, state, independence, sovereignty, unity of people and territory, Arab role, and the distinguished human being — have welcomed the Lebanese president's visit to Damascus and are very optimistic over what was agreed on to preserve Lebanon's Arabism, independence, sovereignty, and unity of its territory and people.

The signs of agreement and cooperation between the two fraternal Arab countries were also welcomed by all freedom, peace, and justice-loving people in the world. Needless to say, this agreement was also welcomed by the Arab masses, which have been following developments in Lebanon with great sorrow and a fear that these developments might result in further Israeli encroachment on Lebanon's territory, security, independence, and rights and also in U.S. hegemony over that Arab country.

Whatever is agreed upon between Syria and Lebanon cannot but be in the interest of Lebanon, Syria, the Arabs and the cause of peace. Syria only wants Lebanon to be an independent Arab country, a country that is a master over its own territory, unified in its institutions and people, effective in its Arab environs, and capable of foiling the ambitions of the covetous and the plots of the enemies of Lebanon and the Arab nation; a country that can guarantee for all the Lebanese freedom, equality, dignity, justice, and guarantees for the present and the future. Syria has rejected and rejects any action, document, agreement, commitment, or pledge that prejudices Lebanon's independence and its rights to its territory — all of its territory — or undermines the bases of the Lebanese entity, its Arab ties and commitments, and the emblem of its independence which says: Lebanon will never be a base or passage for imperialism to the Arab countries. Syria has rejected and rejects the partition, disintegration, or dismantling of Lebanon on a factional or religious basis. Syria has rejected and rejects the idea of Lebanon becoming an arena for civil war and fratricide. Syria has rejected and rejects the destruction of the Lebanese economy and the elimination of all the bases of its distinguished role. Syria has rejected and rejects the idea of imposing on the Lebanese people the formulas of the victor and the vanquished, the oppressor and the oppressed, and the master and the slave. Syria has also rejected and rejects the idea of oppressing, coercing, and isolating the masses of the Lebanese people which adhere to the rights, independence, unity of territory and people, and Arabism. This Syrian stand toward fraternal Lebanon is in the interest of Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation. This stand has not changed and cannot change because it is firm and principled.

Therefore, we can conclude that whatever is agreed upon between Syria and Lebanon cannot be outside the limits of ridding Lebanon of every chain, document, or paper that detracts from its rights, independence, unity, and Arabism, and affects its security and the security of Syria. It also cannot be outside the limits of doing away with the theory of the victor and the vanquished and its negative and destructive results. Moreover, it cannot be outside the limits of achieving the unity of the people through national accord, unifying and stimulating the institutions through a national government which represents the overwhelming majority of the people and its national interests, ending the civil war, devoting all efforts to the primary national task of liberating Lebanon from the Israeli invaders, and putting an end to the attempts of the U.S. imperialists to turn Lebanon into a U.S. protectorate and a card for threatening, pressuring and blackmailing Syria and the Arabs.

When the Lebanese agree, they will find Syria on their side in all fields, extending its hand to them, placing its resources at their disposal, and standing by them through thick and thin. There is no conflict between Syria and Lebanon or between their higher interests. The conflict is between Lebanon's special national interests and Israel's ambitions; between Lebanon's independence and U.S. aspirations for domination. Syria has no enemy in Lebanon except he who is an enemy to Lebanon and its independence and unity and who is an agent for or collaborator with Israel, and the enemies of Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation.

Lebanon's internal affairs are the concern of the Lebanese, who have proved in Geneva that they can come to an agreement on the basis of Lebanon's Arabism, independence, sovereignty, the guaranteeing of its interests, and the respect for the interests of all Lebanese factions.

TISHRIN: Cancel Camp David

JN030944 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0820 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 3 Mar (SANA) — In today's editorial, *TISHRIN* says: The one who is capable of abrogating the agreement imposed on Lebanon is also capable of aborting the Camp David accords which are imposed on the Egyptian people. Consequently, he is capable of aborting any plans or treasons currently being prepared in the royal palaces in Amman, or in any other dark halls in the Arab world.

TISHRIN adds: Lebanon's triumph means that such agreements cannot be imposed on the people, nor are they everlasting; they can and must be aborted. The paper notes that this matter explains the Zionist rage over Al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus, and over the talks about cancelling the 17 May agreement — the rage which was expressed by open and rash threats against Lebanon and Syria. This matter also shows the dangers of the agreement, and shows that it is — as Syria officially described it — a U.S.-Israeli agreement at the expense both of Lebanon and of its national and pan-Arab interests. Otherwise, we would not have heard the Zionist yelling.

TISHRIN says: Once again we assert that what took place in Lebanon is a victory for Lebanon, the Arab nation, and Syria.

Many years ago, Hafiz al-Asad said that Syria is great because of its nation, just as its nation is great because of Syria. We are becoming great by our nation and our nation is becoming great by Syria, which has become a symbol of a new Arab stage in this decade.

TISHRIN concludes: The pressing question is: How can our nation learn from these lessons in order to make a qualitative change in the mechanism of the conflict and the confrontation on the basis of the Syrian experience and practice, which regained decisionmaking in the region for Syria and the Arab nation.

Shultz Remarks Criticized

JN032230 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Palestine Broadcast: From the "On the Events" program]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has admitted the failure of the U.S. policy in Lebanon. However, Shultz did not blame himself, the Reagan administration, or the twisted logic of U.S. policy for this failure. Instead, he blamed the U.S. Congress and the Americans. He also blamed the law that limits the authority of the U.S. President in terms of using the U.S. forces — a law that was adopted in 1975 as a result of the Vietnam war and the U.S. defeat there.

Had George Shultz been fair, he would have admitted that the U.S. people's move to limit the aggressive appetite of their presidents is one of their greatest achievements. Otherwise, an adventurous president such as Ronald Reagan would threaten the United States and the world with destruction by pursuing his ambitions, imposing domination on others, and flexing his muscles. People's of the world, regardless of their strength, always hope to live in peace and to spare their sons the tragedies of war.

Had George Shultz been truthful, he would have admitted that he was one of the factors that led to the failure of U.S. policy in Lebanon. When Shultz concocted the 17 May agreement, he was exploiting the Israeli forces and the presence of the U.S. Marines. He was prompted by the greed of the U.S. policymakers to impose domination and hegemony on others. The 17 May agreement was satisfactory to the United States and Israel, but it was counter to the interests and aspirations of the Lebanese people and the Arab nation. Hence, the Arabs and the Lebanese had to resist it. Naturally, this agreement became a tool of war and struggle instead of becoming an agreement guaranteeing peace. This is the nature of all agreements that are not based on justice.

Before George Shultz, Philip Habib and other U.S. diplomats played such a game. The logical result was the failure of the credibility and prestige of U.S. diplomacy, which is based on lies and deception. This is because diplomacy will abjectly fail if it is not devoid of whims. Hence, the U.S. failure in Lebanon is a double failure: It is a failure of the principle of the use of force, and a failure of U.S. diplomacy which is led by Shultz.

Al-Jumayyil Talks Viewed

*JN041513 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The forces hostile to Lebanon — inside and outside the country — are trying to cast doubts on the results of the Damascus talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. These forces insist on hiding behind the facts, and on not admitting that the twin countries, Syria and Lebanon, are capable of foiling what can undermine the strong relations between them, and end what is contrary to the logic of history and nature. In other words, these forces do not believe in the inevitable collapse of the 17 May agreement and its complete cancellation. Thus, they continue to ignore facts, and to fight them by all means as if they could replace the rule with the exception to the rule.

These forces are wasting their time because their attempts will be useless. This is because the 17 May agreement was born dead. It carries the seeds of its own destruction, and it contradicts the principles of sovereignty and independence regarding the unity of the Lebanese territory and people and their strong ties with Syria and its fraternal Arabs. The talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil were good and positive; they were also candid and dealt with the ambitions of the Lebanese people. These talks asserted that the work for Lebanon's higher interests must be above all other demands, and that these interests call for placing Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, unity, and Arab relations above all considerations. These talks also asserted the inevitable collapse of every wager on Lebanon's enemies — the U.S. imperialists and the Zionist aggressors.

Of course, the results of the talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will appear very soon in the form of frank and definite measures that will remove the doubts of Lebanon's enemies and will prove that Lebanon will not be what they want it to be or what they seek to achieve through their feverish attempts to fragment Lebanon and to fan the fire of sedition and war among its sons.

Lebanon's enemies have wagered on the 17 May agreement in order to carry out their objectives and plans aimed at ending Lebanon's existence and unity. Their excuse was that this agreement was the only path to expel the Israeli invasion forces from the Lebanese homeland. However, they forgot that the content of the agreement itself gives the Zionists the right to keep their forces on that territory, not only to violate the homeland's independence and sovereignty, but also to carry out acts of observation and espionage against Syria. This threatens the national security of Syria and the Arab nation; which tarnishes Lebanon and its genuine affiliation to the lofty Arab nation. This situation is a contradiction to Lebanon's reality and an attempt to separate Lebanon from its fold, and to uproot it from its great history.

Lebanon's enemies must accept the new and old state of affairs, and must realize that what they are doing is an attempt at failure. Their desire to fragment the unity of the homeland and its sons

will be doomed to failure, because Lebanon's national and pan-Arab reality is firmer than all wagers aimed at harming it.

The events of the past 9 years have emphasized the soundness and firmness of this reality. Do Lebanon's enemies intend to put it to the test again? If they want to, let them try. But before doing so, they must understand that the price they will pay this time will not be less than what they have paid in the past 9 years.

TISHRIN on Lebanon's Arab Ties

JN041153 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 4 Mar (SANA) — In its editorial today, *TISHRIN* says that the collapse of the 17 May agreement necessarily means that Lebanon will return to its Arab family and to its pan-Arab affiliation. It also necessarily means the collapse of the Zionized Phalangist plan and the other Zionized plan that is being prepared in Amman under the auspices of 'Arafat and Husayn within the framework of Reagan's peace plan.

TISHRIN adds: The collapse of the agreement necessarily means that the Camp David accords that were imposed by As-Sadat on our Arab people in Egypt will inevitably fail too because it is illogical for Arab Egypt, Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir's Egypt; to divest itself of its Arab garment to don the Zionist gown. The paper says: More importantly the collapse of the agreement means that the cards of the region will remain in the hands of the region — the hands of the Arab nationalists, and that the Arab nation's salvation depends on the extent of the Arabs' readiness to confront their historical enemy.

TISHRIN adds: Syria's valiant stands and the great pan-Arab achievements it has scored are an example to those who really aspire to attaining Arab dignity and liberating the usurped Arab lands. The paper concludes: It goes without saying that the United States, the Zionists, and those who are involved in their camp will not give in to the fait accompli. That's why we listen to them speaking about many cards they will play at the appropriate time to obstruct the march of the Arab revolution which is led by militant Syria. However, the most important cards have fallen and the remaining cards will not succeed in checking the comprehensive pan-Arab upsurge and in halting the triumphant march of Arab history.

Lebanese Nationalists Must Be Wise

*JN051217 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT
5 Mar 84*

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Damascus Road" *TISHRIN* says: Despite the fact that the wager on Israel seems to have dark horizons, and despite the fact that this wager has a thousand times been proved to be the source of Lebanon's tribulation since 1975, the nationalist body that is being stabbed by those who are making this wager has not missed an opportunity to contain the pains of the treacherous stabs and to bring Lebanon to the road that will save it from what it has been dragged into. But what

comes after? This is the question that the Lebanese nationalist body has the right to be most concerned about when dealing with the current setbacks of those making the Zionized wager in order to prevent another bitter experience the same as when the nationalists showed forgiveness and then fell prey to the opportunism of those who are Zionized.

TISHRIN adds: It is imperative that the nationalists direct their policy with a wisdom and shrewdness that will save Lebanon and preserve it independent, sovereign, Arab, and democratic, and keep it immune to the line of the Zionized wager. Especially since the whole region is watching and looking forward to the wisdom and shrewdness of the Lebanese nationalists because it will be an example for any future Arab dealings with those who make the Zionized wagers.

All that has happened in Lebanon, and will happen in the future is closely tied with the ups and downs of the conflict raging in the Arab arena between two courses that are in opposite trenches. One course leads to Arab national liberation while the other is assimilation in the imperialist-Zionist plan. The existence of one course depends on the crushing of the other.

TISHRIN says: We cannot ignore the fact that those who committed the 'Ayn ar-Rummanah crime on 13 April 1975 were involved in a plan to trap Syria, the Lebanese people, and the Palestinian revolution, traps that would drown them in a battle and thus keep Syria away from any effective resistance to a greater conspiracy. It is true that the triumphant outcome of Syria's opposition to the conspiracy on all the axes has not yet come, but what is certain now is that the Damascus road is the road that is proving its credibility and accumulating its victories. More importantly this road is arming itself increasingly by learning lessons from those who have set traps in Lebanon and for Lebanon. The harm that has been done cannot be assessed and the current situation in which victories are being achieved on the Damascus road must not blind us to what must inevitably be done in order to continue on the road of reaping more victories and toward destroying the other line; that of wagering on the pan-Arab enemy.

From here stems the great responsibility on the shoulders of the Lebanese nationalists because the future of the greater battle with the Camp David course depends on their wisdom and shrewdness in preserving what has been achieved in victories on the Damascus road. The paper adds: The lessons of the current battle are patterns for the coming battle and they govern its directions. Any preoccupation with the peripheral issue of the current battle must not conceal its direction and broad objective.

The weapon of nationalist Lebanese-Syrian militant cohesion is sharp and tested. It has triumphed and it must be the basis for the long-sought victory in the battle to foil Camp David as it had been the basis for changing the course of dealing with Israel in Lebanon. What has so far been achieved in Lebanon is a message to the Camp David parties, warning of the defeat and the collapse of the entire political structure built on the famous As-Sadatist 99 percent theory.

TISHRIN concludes: The Lebanese nationalists must now arm themselves with the lessons of their wise and shrewd magement

of their political stand toward the 17 May agreement. The Lebanese nationalist body must close the doors in the face of the 17 May agreement conspirators whether they are those who will once again resort to treachery or those who try to gain time and waste the nationalists' opportunity to rebuild the country.

Damascus Radio Analyzes Husayn-'Arafat Talks

*JN021543 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[From the "On the Events" program]

[Text] After 3 days of talks between the Jordanian regime's delegation under King Husayn on the one hand and 'Arafat on the other, a joint statement was issued which avoided any mention of details or definite measures by the two sides. However, diplomatic sources in Amman said that Husayn and 'Arafat had intended to shroud their decisions in secrecy, and that each would separately hold the necessary contacts about these decisions with the United States and the Egyptian regime.

Yasir 'Arafat described his 3-day talks with King Husayn as the most important he had ever held. King Husayn alleged that he was concerned about the Palestinian interests and that he was devoting all his time to searching for solutions that ensure the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Despite the discreetness of the two sides, some foreign correspondents in the Jordanian capital cited certain members of a West Bank delegation that attended part of these talks as saying that 'Arafat is about to agree to a political plan that is aimed to break the deadlock in the Arab-Israeli conflict. These members said that 'Arafat asked King Husayn to give him time to study the main points of this plan such as the acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 242 and granting King Husayn an official authorization to speak on behalf of the Palestinian Arab people. The plan also deals with the forthcoming confederation between the two banks of the Jordan River.

While Israel and the United States expressed their pleasure over the 'Arafat-Husayn meeting, the Palestinian revolution factions and popular circles have expressed their concern about this meeting. They believe it will not result in any benefit for the Palestinian people but will definitely harm the Palestinian cause, not only because it will authorize the Jordanian regime to negotiate in the name of the Palestinians, but because this meeting as well as other similar suspect meetings will also give the United States and Israel a new opportunity to resume their maneuvers and plots against the Palestinian people and cause after their plots against the Palestinian people failed during the Lebanese events. Following the conclusion of the Husayn-'Arafat talks, former Israeli war Minister Ari'el Sharon said that Israel will not allow the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza. He claimed that Transjordan is part of what he called the land of Israel and that his government is prepared to concede this land to the Palestinians.

Lebanese Announce Abrogation of 17 May Agreement*TA051237 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1234 GMT
5 Mar 84*

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon radio station has just given an official announcement from the B'abda Palace: The Lebanese Government has decided to abrogate the Israeli-Lebanese accord.

Official Reacts to Announcement*TA051308 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT
5 Mar 84*

[Text] The Lebanese Government has abrogated the agreement with Israel. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that a Lebanese Government spokesman has just announced that it regards the agreement with Israel null and void, and that it sees itself not committed to any of its implications. The official announcement states that the Lebanese Government strives for security arrangements which will be conducive to the IDF's withdrawal from the whole of Lebanon and to restore Lebanese sovereignty over its entire territory. The spokesman in Beirut further announced that the national reconciliation conference will convene in Geneva next Monday to discuss new arrangements in the Lebanese Government.

In Jerusalem, an official told foreign correspondents that Israel does not rule out the possibility of holding talks on new security arrangements in southern Lebanon. According to the official, who asked to remain anonymous, there have already been Lebanese feelers on this issue.

Security Sources React*TA051322 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1315 GMT
5 Mar 84*

[Text] Sources in the defense establishment have reacted to the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement by saying that, as far as the IDF is concerned, nothing has changed. The General Staff will continue its deliberations over new security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

Nevertheless, the security sources told our military correspondent Doron Rosenblum that it will now be necessary to drop the Lebanese Army from the plans for security arrangements in southern Lebanon and make do with the assistance of local groups, including the Christian militia.

Shamir Denouncement Reported*TA051431 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1422 GMT
5 Mar 84*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sharply denounces the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and the Syrian intervention in Lebanon. This was announced by the prime minister's adviser on communications affairs in a first official reaction to the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement.

The capitulation of the Lebanese Government to the Syrian diktat, the announcement stated, spells the end of Lebanon's independence and sovereignty. Israel hopes that Lebanon will succeed in releasing itself from the Syrian enslavement and it is even today ready to implement the agreement of 17 May 1983, an agreement which was abrogated by the Lebanese Government today.

The announcement added that in view of the fact that in this current state of affairs Lebanon is incapable of fulfilling its obligations and of preventing southern Lebanon from once again becoming a basis for terrorist attacks, Israel will seek on its own appropriate ways to guarantee its security. Nevertheless, Israel will continue to feel friendship for the Lebanese people.

As said, this is the first official reaction of the prime minister's adviser on communications affairs on behalf of Yitzhaq Shamir.

Begin: 'Very Negative Development'*TA051348 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1340 GMT
5 Mar 84*

[Text] Here is another reaction to the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese Agreement, that of Menahem Begin. Ya'aqov Eylon spoke on the phone with Menahem Begin a few minutes ago.

[Begin recording][Begin] This is a very negative development, as far as both Lebanon and Israel are concerned. I hope the government reacts to this development shortly. I may react to this reaction of the government. I am convinced that it will react properly.

[Eylon] What will happen now, Mr Begin?

[Begin] We will wait until the government reacts. I think this is called for by the situation.

[Eylon] Has the period of relations between Israel and Lebanon ended?

[Begin] I will answer all questions but, naturally, I would rather wait until the government has reacted.

[Eylon] I thank you very much. [end recording]

Lebanon Wants Security Arrangements, Not Agreement*TA041526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] Lebanon has asked Israel to discuss agreed security arrangements in southern Lebanon, which will replace the agreement of 17 May last. This was confirmed by political sources in Jerusalem; our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer learned of the matter.

In the course of the day urgent discussions have been held on this issue in Jerusalem.

Intention To Abrogate Agreement Reported 4 March
TA041750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT
 4 Mar 84

[Text] Lebanon today informed Israel of its intention to abrogate the accord the two countries signed for regulating their relations last year. Lebanon proposes a discussion on security arrangements for Israel in southern Lebanon, instead of the abrogated agreement. Hectic consultations have been held in Jerusalem today on all Lebanese issues. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer elaborates:

[Begin recording][Schiffer] It is already known in Jerusalem that there is no way back from the decision made by Amin al-Jumayyil to abrogate the agreement his country signed with Israel on 17 May last year. Over the last 24 hours Lebanese representatives have informed Israeli notables of Amin al-Jumayyil's decision to replace the agreement with security arrangements for the southern region.

In the course of the day, policymakers here discussed various Israeli reactions and the security arrangements Israel independently wants to achieve when the agreement is cancelled. It will publicly be said that Amin al-Jumayyil totally submitted to the Syrian pressures and demands, but practically speaking, in the future, Israel will not be opposed to being a party to consolidating acceptable security arrangements in southern Lebanon which will be with the approval of Syria as well.

Let us repeat, officially it will be said that one cannot trust a country that annuls agreements it has signed, but in due course Israel will consent to alternative arrangements. Things have reached the point where we are told by the prime minister's office that no negotiations are on the agenda, that Israel adheres to the 17 May agreement and that no substitute is being discussed.

Veteran Minister Dr Yosef Burg reacted in the afternoon to the possibility that the 17 May agreement will be replaced by an agreement on security arrangements in the south.

[Burg] It is reality and not the piece of paper which is important, and reality is that we need the security arrangements and it is on this that we will struggle.

[Schiffer] Security arrangements with whom? Will it be with Syria or with Lebanon?

[Burg] Anyone who can enhance security is desirable.

[Schiffer] Minister Yuval Ne'eman who is known for his position that the IDF should remain in Lebanon for a long period while decreasing its forces reacted to this possibility thus:

[Ne'eman] I do not believe in this last possibility with Syria either. I would say one thing: At the time I voted against the present agreement, I was not impressed by the agreement. But when there is an agreement, I think Israel makes a mistake to consent to give this agreement up. Thus, the Egyptians or whoever can tomorrow change agreements. If there is any significance to the agreement indeed, it should remain unchanged.

[Schiffer] No U.S. reaction was received in Jerusalem to the report that Lebanon wants to replace the agreement with Israel by security arrangements. However, the assessment here is that the Americans will not be opposed to this, nor will they overly react to the annulment of the agreement to which they had been a party from the start to the actual moment of signing. [end recording]

Reaction to Lebanese Moves on New Accord

TA031918 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT
 3 Mar 84

[Text] Lebanon has not yet appealed to Israel requesting that a new accord be formulated. If such an appeal is made, Israel will reject this and will not agree to enter negotiations on replacing the 17 May accord. This is the assessment of our political correspondent Yoram Ronen. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus has cited Voice of Lebanon radio station as saying that President al-Jumayyil has already appealed to the Americans with a proposal that a discussion of a new accord be initiated.

Israeli elements denied rumors to the effect that President al-Jumayyil met an Israeli envoy in Rhodes, on his way back to Beirut from Damascus. The prime minister's office has announced that Israel still hopes that Lebanon will not abrogate the agreement. The government will not make a decision on a new IDF deployment in Lebanon tomorrow. Such a decision is expected in a few weeks.

USSR Would Not Oppose 'Arrangements'

TA041240 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT
 4 Mar 84

[Text] The Soviet Union will not object to Israel and Lebanon agreeing to security arrangements and it recognizes Israel's security needs in southern Lebanon, according to reports arriving in Jerusalem from the United States and France.

It is also believed in Jerusalem that pressure has recently eased on Amin al-Jumayyil due to the internal difficulties facing the Syrian president. Our correspondent has learned that Hafiz al-Asad is trying to mediate in the power struggles within the top levels of the Syrian leadership, between his brother Rif'at and three senior figures who are opposed to him.

Rif'at Al-Asad's opponents are Defense Minister Mustafa Talas; Chief of Staff Hikmat ash-Shihabi; and the second-ranking figure in the Ba'th Party leadership, 'Abdallah al-Ahmar.

Our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a points out that the power struggles within the Syrian leadership began during President al-Asad's illness and were exacerbated following the Ba'th Party convention. Military movements in the Syrian capital have recently been noticed in the context of these developments.

Cabinet Discusses Security, Lebanese Situation

TA041340 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] The Cabinet was briefed today on various security issues, including the situation in Lebanon, by Chief of IDF Intelligence Major General Ehud Barak. This debate was also attended by the chief of staff and the coordinator of Israel's activities in Lebanon.

The Cabinet also discussed the meetings held recently between figures from the territories and Yasir 'Arafat and, following a debate, instructions were issued to the pertinent bodies. The Cabinet secretary said that according to instructions issued 16 years ago, such contacts are banned.

Our correspondent points out that these issues were discussed by the Cabinet in its capacity as the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

In the meeting, Defense Minister Moshe Arens also reviewed his talks with the U.S. secretary of state and other administration officials.

Further on Cabinet Discussion

TA041548 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel — recorded]

[Excerpt] Long consultations were held in Jerusalem today regarding the situation in Lebanon. The Cabinet heard reviews by the IDF's intelligence chief. Israel is following the latest developments, but for the time being, it is doing so without any intention to act. The situation in Lebanon is too fluid, Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor said today; the Cabinet weekly meeting today did not discuss proposals for a redeployment of the IDF. We should perhaps mention that the almost regular Sunday demonstration against the stay in Lebanon was not staged opposite the prime minister's office today.

Government circles today wanted to stress that the political accord with Lebanon has not been abrogated yet. They declared, once again, that Israel is opposed to its annulment. Israel, it was further stated, will not allow renewed negotiations on the accord, despite the Lebanese proposals. A government source said that it is meaningless to discuss a new document when the Lebanese regime cannot fulfill the present agreement.

Political observers noted today that there is no certainty that Lebanon is proceeding toward a Syrian solution: Not everyone who destroys can also build, it was said. The Syrians have already run into complications in Lebanon and it is not now clear how well they will be able to keep the various factions under control. Experience in recent days has proven that their control of them is not absolute.

Jerusalem is following with great interest the developments inside Syria as well. However, government sources have doubted the degree of influence the internal struggles there have on

Lebanon. Al-Asad is still the Syrian ruler, we were told today, and it is a fact that he invited Al-Jumayyil to Damascus despite the internal problems. There is no certainty that the political crisis in Syria will give Amin al-Jumayyil more freedom of action.

The Cabinet today discussed the meetings that Judea and Samaria notables held with 'Arafat in Jordan. At the end of the discussion the Cabinet gave various instructions in accordance with its policy on this issue. A government source explained that this is not the first meeting of its kind but law clearly prohibits meetings between Judea and Samaria notables with personages such as 'Arafat.

Cabinet Sets Up Committee To Prevent Emigration

TA041451 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT
4 Mar 84

[Text] Today the Cabinet has set up a committee of directors general to handle the problem of emigration. The committee is headed by the deputy minister for parliamentary affairs in the prime minister's office Dov Shilansky and its members are directors general of the government ministries, the director of the Budget Department of the Finance Ministry and the director of the employment service in the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir was opposed to the composition of the committee and asked that his opposition be noted down in the minutes.

The committee will convene soon and Deputy Minister Shilansky will submit to it practical proposals to struggle against emigration, including a draft resolution on discharged soldiers and a proposal to cancel the customs benefits to returning Israelis.

Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that the decision to set up a committee of directors general and not of ministers means that the handling of emigration remains in Dov Shilansky's hands rather than in the hands of the Immigrant Absorption Ministry which dealt with this issue in recent years.

Air Force Attacks 'Alayh Region 5 March

TA050600 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0555 GMT
5 Mar 84

[Text] Here is a report that Hanan Nave has just given me from the newsroom: This morning Air Force planes attacked the 'Alayh region, on the Beirut-Damascus highway, hitting a three-story building that served the terrorists as a base for launching attacks. The IDF spokesman has announced that all our planes returned safely to their bases. The pilots reported precise hits on the target.

Arens Comments in Washington on Border Security

TA021927 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT
2 Mar 84

[Report from Washington by Elimelekh Ram — videotaped]

[Excerpt] The U.S. secretary of state discussed with Defense Minister Arens the strengthening of cooperation and consultations for the coordination of Israeli-U.S. policy in Lebanon, against the danger of renewed anti-Israeli terrorist activity in the short term and against the Syrian danger to Israel's security and to U.S. interests in the Middle East in the longer term. Arens emphasized that if a solution is found for the security of Israel's northern border, the IDF will evacuate Lebanese territory without any delays.

[Begin Arens videotape in English] Well, I do not think any one of us wants to look into the unforeseeable future, but I think everybody knows that the presence of Israeli troops in southern Lebanon is there for one purpose and one purpose only, and that is to assure that there will not be terrorist acts against the northern part of Israel from southern Lebanon, and at the very earliest opportunity that we can find a way of reaching that goal and free our troops from the burdens of their presence in southern Lebanon, we will not be in southern Lebanon anymore. [end videotape]

It is clear to both Shultz and Arens that it is the Syrian danger that features prominently in the Lebanese crisis. Arens emphasized that Israel will not allow the status quo ante, the situation prevailing before June 1982, to return. Lines for Israeli-U.S. cooperation will probably be outlined in the talks about the strategic cooperation between the two countries currently underway in Israel.

Government Drops Opposition to Jordanian RDF

JN021630 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
1530 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Washington says that the intended sale of modern missiles to Jordan and Saudi Arabia by the U.S. Administration is facing strong opposition in the Congress.

Our correspondent adds that the U.S. Administration has notified the two houses of the Congress of its intentions. The two deals with Jordan and Saudi Arabia will be concluded if the two houses of the Congress do not make a decision within 1 month that prevents the conclusion of the deals.

Israel had earlier notified the United States of its firm opposition to the execution of these two deals.

Our correspondent points out that Israel has changed its mind on its opposition to the formation of the Jordanian rapid deployment force with U.S. assistance after Washington had promised that it would not supply this force with advanced weapons and that this force would not be directed against Israel but will deal with crises in the Gulf.

Further Reportage on OAU Council of Ministers Session**Stance Toward RSA Modified***AB021340 Paris AFP in English 1330 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] Addis Ababa, Mar 2 (AFP) — The Organisation of African Unity today modified its official stance on the current Angolan and Mozambican contacts with South Africa. The words "victory for African diplomacy" used by Assistant Secretary-General Paul Etiang in a statement here last night were notably absent from a communique issued today. This said that African foreign ministers, meeting here in a Council of Ministers' session since Monday, had "expressed sympathy and deep understanding" regarding developments in southern Africa. The communique did not explicitly mention the contacts with South Africa.

Mr Etiang's statement last night that the ministerial council had "endorsed" the Angolan and Mozambican contacts with South Africa as "a positive victory for African diplomacy" had caused a bit of a stir on the conference sidelines. Several delegations, including that of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, felt that it had not reflected the spirit of the ministers' discussions.

In today's communique Mr Etiang said he was seeking "to correct an impression that my lack of good English has created." The communique said that Angola and Mozambique "renewed their commitment to support SWAPO (of Namibia) and the ANC until the achievement of their objectives."

According to conference sources, Angolan and Mozambican representatives had explained to the meeting that the situation inside their countries and the lack of international support, even in Africa itself, had obliged them to negotiate with the apartheid state. They explained that they could not on their own bear the economic and military consequences of supporting liberation movements in southern Africa, the sources said.

ANC and SWAPO representatives, in separate statements, reiterated their confidence in the Mozambican and Angolan Governments, and stressed that their struggles would continue. SWAPO External Relations Secretary Peter Mueshihange said: "Our colleagues of Angola also want independence of Namibia" and that "the process of independence, whether by peaceful or military means, will go on."

SWAPO's guerrillas have operated from bases in Angola against South African-led forces in Namibia, but this support could end with the U.S.-sponsored dialogue between Angola and South Africa, observers believe.

An ANC representative, Johnny Makatani, acknowledged that the rapprochement between Mozambique and South Africa "will no doubt have an adverse effect on our struggle." But he stressed that it would not stop the struggle because, he said, the ANC had not been using Mozambique to launch attacks against South Africa as the government in Pretoria had claimed. "We know Mozambique," he added. "It is not abandoning the struggle. It (the rapprochement) is a tactical move imposed upon it."

Assistance Urged for Region*EA031749 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0400 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Mr Paul Etiang, OAU assistant secretary general for economic affairs, has disclosed that the meeting of the OAU Council of Ministers has called for emergency material and fiscal aid for the countries bordering racist South Africa regime to enable them to preserve their national dignity and protect their territorial integrity. He said this in a statement issued with regard his previous statement stating that the ministerial council session had supported and accepted the recent rapport between South Africa, and Angola and Mozambique.

Mr Paul Etiang said that the Council of Ministers session had stressed the need for emergency material and fiscal aid to countries neighboring South Africa, explaining that Angola and Mozambique had renewed their pledge to support the struggle of SWAPO and the ANC for as long as they showed that they were pursuing their aims.

Mr Etiang said that at this meeting representatives of Angola, Mozambique, and Lesotho, and representatives of SWAPO, ANC and the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania, PAC, recognized by the OAU, had briefed the meeting on the current situation in southern Africa.

SWAPO Assails RSA 'Maneuver'*AB021025 Lagos NAN in English 0940 GMT 2 Mar 84**[By James Bello]*

[Text] Addis Ababa, Mar 1 (NAN) — A SWAPO spokesman, Peter Mueshihange, today told OAU foreign ministers in Addis Ababa that the South African disengagement accord with Angola was another "diplomatic manoeuvre" to undermine Namibia's struggle for independence.

The East Africa correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) said that Mr Mueshihange appealed to the ministers for increased military and financial support to enable SWAPO to intensify its battle against the apartheid regime.

"It is obvious to SWAPO that South Africa is deliberately trying to confuse the world by mixing up its troop disengagement from Angola with a cease-fire in Namibia," the spokesman said. He claimed that the accord was to get "SWAPO disarmed and the struggle for independence in Namibia unilaterally ended as the illegal occupation of the country goes on."

South Africa contends that under the agreement, Angola will have to stop SWAPO freedom fighters from using southern Angola as bases for their operations in Namibia. But Angola made it clear that the disengagement accords with Resolution 435 which asked the racists to give up their illegal occupation of Namibia.

Lome II Agreement Reconsidered

*EA031755 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
1000 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] The OAU ministerial council during its fifth day of meetings yesterday held exhaustive discussions on international cooperation. In this respect, the plenum of the council exchanged views on cooperation between African and Arab countries and discussed Egypt's proposal on the continent's economic and social crisis. The meeting of the council exhaustively discussed and accepted Ethiopia's proposal on the negotiations being held between the EEC and the PAC countries aimed at replacing the Lome II agreement.

Touching on this issue, Comrade Goshu Wolde, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member, said in his address to the council that so far in the discussions between the PAC countries and the EEC to replace the Lome II agreement with another to follow it, the European side had made substantial efforts to conclude new articles in the agreement which would not be in the interests of the developing countries. He said in this respect that the proposal to hold a policy discussion between the negotiators had not been accepted.

Comrade Goshu pointed out that at the recent joint ministerial meeting in Brussels, Ethiopia in its capacity as chairman of the African team had made strenuous efforts to ensure that the African countries adopted a firm position by consulting with a single executive office. He added that the ministerial council should support the step as set out in the report presented by the organization's secretary general.

Ghali, Oumarou Assess Session

NC031153 Cairo MENA in English 1108 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 3 (MENA) — Egyptian State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, drew with Foreign Minister of Niger Ide Oumarou, a full assessment of the work of the present session of the ministerial council of the Organisation of African Unity. Ghali is deputy chairman of the session and Oumarou chairman of the council. The two officials also discussed the results of the session, due to be announced on Monday at the close of the meetings.

The Political Drafting and Economic Committees are drawing the formula of resolutions to be released on the 40th session over issues tackled during the meetings. Dr Ghali told MENA that a spirit of agreement prevailed during the session, while dialogue and negotiations were preferred to confrontation and disputes.

Ghali pointed out that the Egyptian diplomacy always called for peaceful settlements to African disputes. He said that the session's atmosphere helped afford time for tackling economic, cultural, social, and financial topics of interest to the continent. Ghali also called for starting preparation for the African ministerial conference due to be held in Conakry prior to the OAU 20th summit, so that the Conakry conferences may be in the (?form) of reconciliation and solidarity conferences for the African countries.

On his talks with the delegations of Angola and Mozambique, the Egyptian state minister said that he discussed with them a new strategy for the southern part of the African Continent, taking into consideration the contacts that had taken place lately between these two countries and South Africa. This strategy, Dr Ghali said, aims primarily at accelerating the independence of Namibia in accordance with the Security Council resolutions in this regard. It also aims at supporting the African front countries which are exposed from time to time to aggression by the racist South Africa. The strategy's objective is to consolidate African liberation movements to face up to the racist regime in South Africa.

Dr Ghali said that he contacted South Africa Peoples' Organisation, known as (?SWAPO), and the two South African liberation movements, to receive their requests from Egypt within its support for their struggle in the different fields. He said that he extended invitations to the heads of the liberation movements to visit Cairo to discuss their requests with the Egyptian officials.

Ghali Departs 4 Mar

NC041049 Cairo MENA in English 1020 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 4 (MENA) — Egyptian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali left here today for home. Dr Ghali led Egypt's delegation to the 40th session of the ministerial council of the Organisation of African Unity.

Ambassador Samir Ahmad will head the delegation during the rest of the meetings due to wind up tomorrow.

This session was the most successful held by the Organisation of African Unity following the deadlock which lasted for about two years, Dr Ghali said. This positive development of the organisation would pave the way for gradual progress towards reaching peaceful solutions for African issues, the Egyptian official said. Dr Ghali voiced hope that differences would be settled during the coming period, especially after an atmosphere of understanding had prevailed during this session with regard to overcoming these differences.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks on 7th Anniversary of Jamahiriyah
LD022241 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic
 1820 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the creation of the people's authority and the proclamation of the birth of the Jamahiriyah in Libya, at the People's Hall in Tripoli — live]

[Excerpts] Today we are celebrating the seventh anniversary of the creation of the people's authority and the proclamation of the Jamahiriyah. [applause] So far, 7 years of revolutionary work have passed on the road of the historic choice to replace all forms of government by the people's authority through the popular conference and popular committees. [applause]

The establishment of a jamahiriya in the world is a grave matter facing no small challenges, from the borders of Libya to the end of the world. This new system meets with surprise, indignation, and challenges because the whole world is governed by the theory of oppression and exploitation. All peoples are dominated by governments and armies that came to power through coups and by kings who falsely and unjustly inherited the earth and all that is on it. All peoples are now subjugated by the tools of government, oppression, and exploitation at the hands of the exploitive forces which often create tools of government to dominate the masses.

The true and wide-scale strategic alliance and support we receive comes not from the ruling regimes in the world but from the base, from the wide masses and the peoples who struggle everywhere for emancipation, deliverance, and freedom. Libya has become a model for the people of these countries. All the peoples struggling for emancipation, deliverance, and freedom now are seeking to achieve the form of social and political life as is happening in Libya.

This places on the Libyan men and women a grave responsibility before the world peoples. This is because in revolutionary and extremely rare conditions and exceptional circumstances, you have set up a jamahiriya in the heart of the Arab homeland — a homeland dominated by kingdoms and princes and life presidents and the forces of exploitation. It is even dominated by tribalism and family control. Families continue to dominate entire Arab peoples.

There are still people who claim to own the earth and everything on it. The Arab land is still privately owned by some families and by some kings. Even those who declared other nonroyal forms of government, have also allowed themselves to inherit the earth and all that is on it through life-presidencies and amirates.

The Arab homeland is governed by kingdoms, princes, kings, life presidents and fascists and is dominated by the exploitive classes which exploit the toiling masses for their own ends.

This Arab homeland is backward and divided and colonized. It is only independent in form, even those Arab countries whose

independence was proclaimed many years ago — at one time foreign forces entered their territories without permission as is the case with the evacuation from Sinai. It is only evacuation in form. Sinai is still in the hands of the Israelis who return to it anytime they wish. Furthermore, the Egyptians cannot militarily enter Sinai. They cannot even set up a development project in Sinai.

However, in the midst of such an Arab homeland, a popular and a totally popular system was set up. A system of popular conferences and popular committees. Thanks be to God, everyone should realize that what was declared in 1977 was no political lie or act of deception. It is no historical lie. It is a fact.

It has proven that the people can be fully liberated by the revolutionary force to exercise authority deservedly. [applause and chants]

The establishment of the Jamahiriya in the midst of such an Arab homeland that is defeated, vanquished, suppressed, and dominated by tools of government, an Arab homeland that is inherited by families, was not an easy task.

But this was a historical lesson and true emancipation from which there can be no retraction because of the difficult conditions surrounding us.

Thus we have no alternative but to march forward in developing the jamahiri society so that the jamahiri society will overcome the conditions surrounding it and so that the Jamahiriya will become a beacon by which the peoples around it can be guided so that there will be a popular revolution. [applause and chants]

We have no alternative then to march forward in the development of the jamahiri society and the affirmation of the authority of the people, so that peoples can realize that it is possible to establish an authority for the peoples through the people's conferences and people's committees.

The struggle in every part of the world is not for the improvement of conditions of government nor for the replacement of the tool of government by another. When the Jamahiriya example becomes evident to the masses and peoples — I mean the Libyan Jamahiriya example — the struggle will turn to demanding the destruction of the tools of government and of the parties which dominate peoples and the classes which exploit the peoples, and to crushing the tools of government, both civilian and military, which oppress the masses.

Then the objective of the masses' struggle becomes clear: the establishment of the system of rule of the masses, and the establishment of Jamahiriya, and the settlement of accounts for the good of the popular masses.

This demands that the picture of the Jamahiriya become clear and the authority of the people asserted, so that the other peoples will follow this example set by the Libyan masses. [applause and chants] The democratic practices in Libya are not only reflected on the Libyans, but also on the peoples who are watching this new experiment.

The peoples which demonstrated for bread in the Arab world this year — do not the merchants, contractors, rulers, exploiters, employers, and brokers, do they not have stores full of food-stuff which they sell for high prices? [words indistinct] the sky does not rain flour and does not rain bread, and money does not reproduce itself. Nobody can put a dinar in his pocket and see it give birth to another dinar. It can never become two dinars except if he takes the other from a consumer.

This circumstance makes us more committed to the immortal idea that authority, wealth and arms must be in the hands of the people.

Weapons are now used against the masses, and the masses are being put down by them. The masses must (?obtain) them. It will be a shame if half the people retreat, or if a reactionary or obstructive person comes and tries to deprive half the Libyan people of weapons. The women must choose on this. According to the resolutions of the People's Conference — and (?it is a pity) that they come together, the establishment of the people's authority, which was established in the announcement of the peoples authority, the announcement which was written by all Libyan men and women in the people's conferences, and which says that defending the homeland is the responsibility of every man and woman of the citizens — tomorrow, Saturday, 3 March, military training for women in schools and colleges will end, and will remain only in the male institutions.

The solution does not rest in compulsory channeling [ar tawjih]. We live in a democratic society. Authority is in the hands of the people. It is impossible for anything to be issued unless it comes from the popular conferences. But if there is a fault in the popular conferences it must be corrected and make democracy sound. The revolutionary force discovers the reactionary one and the masses attack the reactionary forces. The staunchest enemies of democracy are the reactionaries. The staunchest enemies of the toiling popular masses are the reactionary forces. The agents of colonialism, are the reactionaries. Those who sold Palestine are the reactionaries. The gaurds of Israel now are the Arab reactionaries. Those who are in alliance with America against the Arab nation are the Arab reactionaries. Reaction has brought (?our homeland) to its present state. The reaction which Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir did not liquidate is the one which killed the 23 July Revolution and it is the one which [words indistinct].

No one is trying to deceive himself and the popular masses and claim that the Libyan people is a revolutionay one. Libyan society is a reactionary one, like the region in which it lives. There is, however, a revolutionary force inside this reactionary society. There are masses, broad masses, which have an interest in the revolution. The revolutionary force may succeed in awakening these masses in order to enable them to make their way to achieve their interests and not relinquish them; and the reactionary force still remaining in Libya may succeed in misleading and deceiving these masses and make them adopt resolutions against their interests and in the interest of backwardness. The reactionay force means a force which goes backward, a backward force which hates progress, hates everything new.

There are still reactionary forces in Libya. Indeed, they were isarmed but they still (?maintain) their culture and behavior and

continue to submit their reactionary views inside Libya. This reactionary force is the one which deceived 'Abd an-Nasir as I have hold you. 'Abd an-Nasir did not liquidate the forces hostile to him, hostile to the Egyptian people, hostile to the Arab nation, and hostile to the revolution, because it painted its face and wore the dress of the revolution.

This class still exists in Libya. It is the one now opposing the liberation of women, is hostile to socialism and hostile even to Arab unity. Tomorrow, when Arab unity is achieved, there will be a class which deceives and is very hostile to Arab unity. America — there are friends of America among you in the popular conferences. They are remnants of the royalist era (?whom we have liquidated). Tomorrow, when America invades Libya they will be the first to welcome it alike when [name indistinct] welcomed Mussolini and said that the moon has shone on us. Those are the traitors who like to control their tribes and control the Libyan people, to speak in its name and take money from the Italians and sell the dignity of the homeland.

This is the group which opposed the (?military) training of women. This is the group which said at the popular conferences that woman should not have equal rights to men because they want to own women. This group loves to own. This group is the exploiting one which sells everything for the sake of its stomach. This group should not live. This group is very dirty. There is no point in it living on earth. It eats, drinks, and does not produce, [words indistinct] it is an agent for America. Tomorrow, now, it constitutes a fifth column for America and a fifth column for the Israelis. The Americans do not rely on a revolutionary force in Libya in order to enable them one day to (?occupy Libya). They rely on a reactionary force consisting of the military and civilian leftovers whom we did not liquidate physically on the eve of the revolution and this mistake I admit. The talk about a white revolution is a myth. It can be a white and merciful revolution but it should continue against [words indistinct].

It is a rule that when you occupy a land which was occupied by the enemy you must purge it by destroying the mines planted in it. Libya was a land occupied by the enemy. It was controlled by the reactionary royalist regime and by foreign bases. A popular revolution erupted in it. It was not carried out by generals. It was executed by ordinary people, ordinary citizens [words indistinct] to enable the masses to become masters and king. In fact, we did not purge the land which we occupied and liberated from the enemy. We controled it and said this is a small and not important mine, and this is an old mine, and this is a mine which is no longer useable, and this is a mine which even if it went off it would not cause harm, and the existance is over, now we have encircled the whole region and control it.

I am convinced that there is a reactionary force in the popular conferences and in no way must it be allowed to exercise authority with the popular masses. It must be purged. It must be liquidated so that authority is in the hand of the masses who are the only ones with an interest in the revolution. [chanting]

This is the task of the revolutionary forces. The task of the revolutionary committees is to prepare to settle the account with the remnants of the royalist society — the reactionary class — who constitute danger to the freedom of these masses. This

struggle must be decided in favor of the masses; they are the sole beneficiaries of the 1 September 1969. [applause and cheers]

On this occasion we should assert that everything must be settled in favor of the popular masses. Any change must be done by the popular masses. The vast majority of the masses of the Libyan people and the masses of any people are the ones who have an interest in the revolution, in power, in wealth, in weapons when they gain possession of them themselves.

The exploiting class, which is antifreedom and antimasses is fewer in number. But it has enormous potentials and consequently it crushes the broad masses. The revolutionary forces and the revolutionary committees have the task of opening the eyes of the broad popular masses which have an interest in the revolution. They should draw their attention to the danger and to their enemies. They should entice them to liquidate them. [cheers] This is because the molding of the future of the masses is not an easy task nor a (?trivial matter). It is the destiny of the masses, the destiny of the peoples, and the destiny of the generations. We will not be complacent about anything that affects the future of the masses.

The thing that poses a danger to the Arab nation's existence is Arab reaction. This does not warrant a long discussion. The agents of America are the Arab reactionaries. The guardians of the Israelis are the Arab reactionaries. (?There is one reactionary) who shamefully guards the Israelis and acts as an informer against the fedayeen and prevents them from entering Palestine. Why? This is because he is reactionary. (?Furthermore), Arab reaction is on the side of America and on the side of the Israelis. All of them with their crowns and their heads have entered Camp David like asses. Who is in Camp David Today? Who is the one who became an ass [word indistinct] and (?followed) Husni Mubarak to Camp David? The Arab reactionaries, who (?embrace) and shake hands with him. [sentence indistinct] The Arab reactionaries are the ones who entered Camp David with Husni Mubarak. They entered the camp of shame. They entered the list of As-Sadat. The list of As-Sadat is the list which must be liquidated either individually or in the form of a revolution against their regime.

Reaction constitutes a danger to the future of the Arab nation. Reaction today is a real ally of America. America relies on it in the Arab homeland; it relies on its agents. Who are the agents? They are the reactionaries. Those who welcome Husni Mubarak who is (?clinging) to the treaty of disgrace and shame, to high treason. from head to toe he is sinking in treason. He received a legacy from As-Sadat, a filthy legacy of high treason. Who is welcoming Husni Mubarak? It is the Arab reaction.

The Arab reaction, wherever it may be, is a real enemy of freedom, an ally of colonialism, a fifth column for America. It has always been like this, even during the crusades. [Word indistinct] the alliance between the Phalangists, who allied themselves with the Israelis and America, there is a real and natural strategic alliance between the Phalangists and those who pretend to be strict Arab Muslims. Look at the Phalangists who allied themselves with Israel, and who are Christians. I am not speaking about Christianity itself, but at least from the religious point of view the Phalangists are Christians. Their natural ally is the

reactionary Arab Muslim. They are partners in commerce, partners in authority, partners in being agents, partners in meanness and name. Their master is America. Their master is Israel. Their enemy is the people. Their enemy are the masses and their enemy is socialism. Naturally the reactionary Arab Muslim allies himself with the Phalangist right-winger, with the Israeli, and with the American.

We have no choice but to continue our path in order to enable the masses to impose [word indistinct]. Now, thank God, we are celebrating today the seventh anniversary of the establishment of the Jamahiriyah. We are celebrating this anniversary with a model in front of us. A very clear model of the effectiveness of the masses and the correctness of the popular attitudes. In front of us there is a bright model which was implemented by the working popular masses in Lebanon. They achieved it against America, the great power, against France, Italy, Britain, and Israel. Even if the Arabs are now afraid, and their flags are afraid and down, they will not be able to express this victory, and they will not be able to enjoy it. We here say that what has been achieved in Lebanon, the defeat which the Americans suffered in Lebanon, is not less than its defeat in Vietnam, and the strike which was directed against the French forces in Lebanon is not less than the historic strike which was directed against it is Dien Bien Phu.

What is happening is that this Arab tribe named Druze (?started to fight) on its own at first, and only lately did the Shi'ites join them. After we addressed an appeal to the Sunnis they fled from the Army. This tribe fought on its own to liberate its mountain and its villages which were occupied by the Phalangists and the Lebanese army. In order to stop the advance of the Druze, America used the *New Jersey* which Reagan thought all people would surrender to. Those who did not die would surrender. He believed —the last weapon in Reagan's pouch is the *New Jersey* battleship. Indeed this is the biggest destroyer in the world. Its has 24-inch guns. [as heard] He placed it off the coast and threatened that either Al-Jumayyil, the Phalangists, and Israel remain, and Syria, the Libyans, and the Palestinians leave, and the Lebanese resistance ends or the *New Jersey* is there; you see it. He tells them, look the *New Jersey* is there. All this talk did not frighten the Lebanese nationalist resistance. It ignored all Reagan's stupid threats. They rushed to liberate their land not with a regular army, rather with the popular masses, masses freed from authority because they rejected the Phalangist authority. They exercised their own authority.

This is a model for a mass action in the Druze mountains. They had no authority, that is they were not subject to any authority. They had their own authority because they rejected the Al-Jumayyil and the Phalangist rule. Thus they were subject to no authority. They were armed. They had weapons in their hands. All the Druze capabilities came into Druze hands. Subsequently they said: Get lost *New Jersey*, get lost Reagan; and they said this to him with their deeds, using bullets. They rushed and destroyed the Lebanese army. [applause] The Shi'ites, which are comprised of poor and toiling masses which have always been oppressed in Lebanon until they entered alliance with the Israelis. [sentence as heard] Musa as-Sadr, about whom they talk, was the first to enter an alliance with the Israelis on the orders of the shah because the shah was the one who installed Musa as-Sadr

over the Shi'ites in Lebanon. As-Sadr followed As-Sadat's apparatus. Consequently the Shi'ites were forced to cooperate with the Israelis against the Arabs because of the oppression. Thus the Shi'ites are a small sect which only have their rifles. They joined the battle and victory was achieved for the Lebanese nationalist force [words indistinct].

Finally Reagan lost his nerve and used the *New Jersey* with which he used to threaten them. He believed that once the huge guns of the *New Jersey* were fired the people would surrender [words indistinct]. See for how many days he fired the *New Jersey* but no one retreated, the earth did not disappear and it was not replaced with water, (?and no water) flew in the air, and people did not flee to the mountain. It fired on the mountain and the popular nationalist forces kept advancing toward the American forces. The *New Jersey* is firing and the American forces came under siege. They were forced to withdraw them with helicopters. Reagan suffered a resounding defeat despite America's use of all its weapons barring nuclear bombs. A decisive defeat in the face of the armed popular Arab masses. [applause]. Indeed the defeat of the American forces in Lebanon at the hand of the Lebanese nationalist forces compensated the Arabs for many losses. It compensated them for their dignity, it restored confidence in their ability, it brought back confidence in the Arabs, the Arab who had come to believe that he was defeated. Now the Arab count down has begun. The things we said at the fifth meeting are now becoming true. [words indistinct] we rebelled. The Shi'ites were oppressed. The Druze were oppressed. The Lebanese people, which was shattered, they burnt it, [as heard] they trampled upon it, has become a giant which forced America to flee.

They used to think that the Arabs have become exhausted, that they have rifles and machine guns but that they cannot stand fast before the American fleet, before the four big powers. No one grants victory except God. Britain, France, Italy, and America — all their forces fled to the sea and the first were the American forces and they were unable to rescue them from the arrival of the patriotic popular forces except by helicopter. The defeat which has fallen on America at our hands — we the Arabs in Lebanon today — has become a reality through the alliance of the revolution in Libya, and the steadfastness of Syria. This has brought the victory of the Lebanese patriotic forces. [cheers]

We should have said it a long time ago, that our constant preoccupation was to inflict defeat on the Atlantic forces and enable the Lebanese people to score victory over them. As a matter of fact, we were working for months, day and night; we and the Syrians and the Palestinians and the Lebanese patriots have been working for some months in order to achieve this victory. Thanks be to God, this victory has been achieved and we must take pride in it and we must raise our voice loud and we must (? feel happy) and we must challenge the enemies.

This has restored confidence in the Arab nation. It has restored confidence to its fighting forces. Now the 17 May agreement which Al-Jumayyil signed with the Israelis is about to be burned and about to be abolished, and I believe that it might take not more than few hours before this agreement is cancelled; and if the 17 May agreement is canceled it will mean the beginning of the count down against all that the enemies have imposed on the

Arab nation so that the popular pan-Arab struggle will be crowned with the burning of Camp David and of the (?authors) of the Camp David agreement. [applause and cheers]

Brothers, if we were able, we the revolutionary forces, the Libyans, along with the steadfast Syrians and the patriotic resistance and the Palestinian resistance — the uprising — if we were able to overthrow the 17 May agreement in the next hours it would mean that we have the power to overthrow the Camp David agreement. [cheers] The question now is a countdown against the enemies and against their machinations against the freedom of the Arab nation. It would also mean the beginning of the positive struggle of the Arab masses.

How can the 17 May agreement be overthrown? It is by the alliance of the Libyan revolution with the Lebanese people, by the rise of the Lebanese patriotic forces, by the steadfastness of Syria, by the emergence of the revolution inside the Palestinian revolution — the new Fatah uprising [cheers] the new positive factor — the new positive influence. Therefore, Libya is allying itself with the masses, with the Egyptian people. We must (?back) the Egyptian patriotic forces. We must transform our alliance, that is the same forces which allied themselves with the Lebanese people so that the 17 May agreement may fall. This same alliance must ally itself once again with the Egyptian people and their patriotic forces so that Camp David is overthrown and destroyed and the Camp David agreement is burned. [cheers]

Yes brothers, today we have self-confidence. First, the battle is not secret and is not hidden from others; today, the challenge is clear. They are striking at us with the largest and the most powerful weapon they possess, with the exception of the nuclear weapon, they are striking at us with the F-16 and F-14 planes which bombed Syria and Lebanon, it means that this advanced plane — and the United States has nothing more advanced — has been used. And the *New Jersey* which is the most powerful vessel in the world, the United States used it. These naval forces, the Marines, who are used as a threat, that can land in and occupy any place in the world — they were dealt a powerful blow by the blowing up of the U.S. and French headquarters by the fedayeen; and finally, the popular resistance raided them and forced them to flee. Reagan himself announced that to avoid a siege and in order to rescue them they should be transported by helicopters out to sea.

We say that this battle has been a great gain. The Arab masses have regained confidence. The governments have failed but the masses are the ones who decided the battle. This is because in Lebanon, it was not a battle of a government or a regular army. In fact, the regular army was on the side of the enemies and the government was allied with the enemies. But the thing that achieved victory in Lebanon was the popular struggle, the popular masses.

Therefore, all confidence must be placed in the popular masses. All attention must be given to the popular masses, and responsibility lies with the popular masses. Therefore the popular masses are the ones which carry the pistols the knives, the rifle, the machine guns and the bombs, and the sticks and enter the battle in order to settle it in any place from the ocean to the gulf. [applause] Not in favor of reaction, but against boundaries,

against the enemies, and against Zionism. [chanting for people's war of liberation]

Therefore, it has been confirmed to us that relying on the masses strengthens the jamahiriyah system. The regular armies failed in their confrontation with the enemy. The rulers capitulated. Kings, like the king of Jordan, bowed their heads. He bowed his head so much that his crown nearly fell before the enemy. As for the masses, they were the ones who settled the fate of the battle when they entered the battle.

Against the wishes of America, of the Israelis, and of the Phalangists the 17 May agreement must be burned. Against the hireling government which America has installed in Egypt, and against the will of the Israelis and their reactionary American allies, the struggle will continue until the Camp David agreement is burned. [applause]

Brothers, today, the road has become clear, the jamahiri road. If the popular masses rise, if they enter the battle even with simple weapons they will triumph.

We have seen battles by regular armies in 1956, 1967 and 1973. The result was defeat. Today we have before us 1983-84 — a battle which was engaged by the popular masses. The Druze, the Shi'ites, and the Sunnis and the patriots of Lebanon who belong to the Syrian Socialist Party, and the other the parties like the Lebanese Communist Party and the Arab Socialist Union and the Christian patriots under the leadership of Franjiyah — these are all patriotic forces — entered the battle against the regular army and against the government and against America, and America was defeated and the regular army disintegrated. The popular masses triumphed.

Therefore, when we say that power, and arms must be in the hands of the people, [cheers] this is the right choice. This is the right choice. This is the historic orientation. [chants and applause]. Therefore, all confidence should be placed in the popular masses. And for this reason, we must underline the people's power and determine the rise of the invincible militarized people. [applause]

If America was defeated by the Druze why can it not be defeated by the entire Libyan people who are not a faction or a tribe but a nation? [applause and chants]

The battle has now become overt and not covert between us and those enemies. Hence we declare that we will continue the struggle even in Lebanon so that all the solutions in Lebanon will be in the interest of the Arab nation, Arab nationalism, and Arab unity and against the Israelis, in spite of them, and against the Americans, in spite of them.

We cannot accept any solution in Lebanon unless it is in the interest of Arab nationalism and against the enemies of the Arab nation. Otherwise the struggle will continue with guns, with machine guns, with bombs and with a [word indistinct] until the last man and woman.

The call which seeks to paralyze half of the Libyan people [women] and keep them away from military training and the

carrying of arms is a call emanating from America, the Israelis, and the reactionaries.

He who opposes the training and emancipation of women is an agent of imperialism whether he likes it or not and whether he knows it or not. He is an agent and a fifth column and paves the ground before the enemy in our land. [applause]

On this occasion, the door for volunteering shall be open wide to the Libyan men and women for training for the people's liberation war and for fighting on all fronts of the Arab nation in the battle of Arab nationalism. [chants]

We say brothers to all the agents who relied on their American master in the Arab homeland: Beware. We have decided to adopt a popular war of liberation, which does not fear the *New Jersey*, nor F-16 nor F-14 and which forced Reagan to concede defeat and to flee like a rat. [applause and chants]

We tell the agents in Sudan that we are allied with the popular revolution in southern Sudan for the sake of liberating Sudan inch by inch, just as Lebanon was liberated. [applause] The United States cannot save that mean man who is hiding in Khartoum. This is because we and the revolutionary force in Ethiopia, in the Arab homeland, the revolution in Libya has decided to ally itself with the revolution in southern Sudan for the sake of liberating Sudan inch by inch. [applause and chants]

The morale of the popular masses has strengthened as a result of America's defeat in Lebanon. The morale of the popular masses has strengthened as a result of America's defeat in Lebanon at the hands of the Lebanese popular resistance and the steadfastness of Syria and the Iranian-Libyan revolutionary alliance with the Lebanese revolution.

The peoples will march forward and will develop the people's war of liberation in Sudan and tomorrow in Egypt and in every part that America seeks to dominate, to use for serving the interests of the American people.

Brothers, we must wage a people's war of liberation in every place where there is fighting for the sake of freedom in accordance with the proclamation of the people's authority in which the Libyan people pledged to defend freedom on earth wherever it may be and to protect the oppressed and the fighters for freedom.

We must force America to fight on 100 fronts all over the earth. We must force it to fight in Lebanon [applause] to fight in Chad, to fight in Sudan and to fight in El Salvador. [applause and chants]

Through the people's war of liberation, we can force America to fight on all fronts. We must escalate the people's liberation war in Latin America and in Central America so that we may force America to fight there. We must escalate the people's war of liberation in Lebanon and Palestine so that we may force America to fight there too. We must escalate the people's liberation war in southern Sudan so that we may force America to fight there. We must escalate the people's war of liberation in Somalia so that we may force America to fight there. We must escalate the people's war of liberation in Africa alongside SWAPO, the

south African liberation front. We must wage a people's war of liberation which America cannot face up to and thus make the United States realize that it is proceeding along a road harmful to America itself so that reason will return to this maniac power. It has taken a despotic line and believes that it can defy anyone, that no one can challenge it.

But we have challenged it in Lebanon and defeated it in Lebanon. I say this so that Reagan the cheap, may hear. [applause] We have defeated him in Lebanon and we are celebrating our victory over him in Lebanon. We have forced him to flee Lebanon. [chants]

All alliances should be with the peoples, as those Egyptians who talked with you over the television have asked you to do: to ally yourselves with the Egyptian people. Let us respond to their appeal. We do not object to going to the Egyptian people and have the Egyptian come to us. [applause] We do not object to opening the borders and destroying the barriers that separate between us and the Egyptian people. [applause]

This is a battle of liberation and a battle of building side by side. We carry the shovel in one hand and the gun in the other. [applause] All the living forces in this country must address themselves to production and to the camps. We want to train in the camps on the use of arms, to train for the people's war of liberation to face up to America and to the Israelis and to all enemies of the Arab nation. [applause]

In these camps we will learn all the applied and technical sciences. Let the colleges turn into mobile colleges and the schools into mobile schools for the sake of arms, for the sake of knowledge, and for the sake of building. All centers of production should turn into mass centers. [chants] There are no workers only, nor military only, nor employees only. All these shall belong to the popular masses. [applause] The revolutionary forces and the revolutionary committees should begin to instigate the popular masses to take control of all positions [jamiharat] in Libya and to destroy the dividing lines between the military and the civilians, the employers and workers. [applause]

All the popular masses are called upon to march in order to take control of all positions, be they military barracks, worker centers, administrative centers, and educational institutions. [applause and chants]

Let the masses' march begin to give a push forward to the revolution, and consolidate the concept of the master people and commanding people. Through practical actions we will be moving into yet another stage of building the revolution. The masses should declare: All shall carry arms and shovels irrespective of whether they are students, workers, employees or military men. All shall carry arms, shovels and books.

Forward until victory, until liberation. God is great and glory belongs to the masses. Glory shall be for the masses. Victory shall be for the masses, the owners of authority, the revolution and the arms. Forward brothers. [applause and chants]

JANA: Sudan's Rebels Ready To Attack Malakal *LD041554 Tripoli JANA in English 1439 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Khartoum, Jumada al Ulla 29, March 4 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — There are wide-scale reports in Khartoum speaking of an imminent attack by Sudanese revolutionaries on the town of Malakal, capital of the Upper Nile Province. The FRENCH NEWS AGENCY said these reports reflect the deteriorating situation in southern Sudan. The agency did not discount the fall of Malakal in the hands of the revolutionaries, stressing that its fall will open the way for the revolutionaries to advance on the two other provinces in southern Sudan, Bahr al Ghazal and the equatorial province.

SUDAN

Numayri 3 Mar National Unity Day Address *JN031005 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Mar (SUNA) — In a speech on the anniversary of Sudanese National Unity Day, President Numayri hailed this day and described it as one of Sudan's dearest days. He said the Sudanese people have established a strong basis for national unity and raised the May Revolution's slogan of the homeland first, second, and last.

The president's speech came in a rally held in Khartoum this morning. He said that the May Revolution inherited the legacy of a regime that was a prey to sectarian tryanny and tribal influence. The unity day was a day for all of Africa; a day in which Sudan presented a model to solve African problems that are multiplying day after day within and among the African states.

President Numayri said that the May Revolution has transcended the legacy of ruin, backwardness, and fragmentation and is able to offer a solution to the African problems which have remained unsolved for the past 17 years. The president spoke on the achievements of the May Revolution and said that national unity is based on diverse environments, on participation in the government, in the responsibility which comes through autonomous rule, and the decentralization in government. This unity is based on the fair division of authority and wealth among the sons of the nation on the basis of equality of rights, duties, and national responsibility.

The president referred to the attempts of the enemies who are laying in wait for the nation in cooperation with the nation's adversaries, who always foment trouble and inflame the situation. These adversaries were displeased when they saw Sudan rebel against trusteeship and seek its path with independent will and complete sovereignty. He also spoke about the attempts to weaken Sudan by blockades and insurgencies and said that the Sudanese people, who defeated all these attempts and overcame all the dark plots, will be able to defeat the new conspiracies of those who claimed to be Sudan's liberation army.

The president said that the new imperialist agents are Marxists-Leninists. They work against all religions. They receive funds for the services they render, which include betraying the homeland

and destroying the nation's achievements. The president asserted that only genuine Sudanese will be able to solve Sudan's problems — the Sudanese who hate, fight, and stand against communism. He said we have been accustomed to the communist, Marxist-Leninist methods in destruction [words indistinct] hunger, thirst, and suffering so that they will bear grudges against the young revolution. He said that the communists had previously tried to isolate the workers [from the revolution] but they will never have any opportunity to implement their schemes.

The president said that those who dealt with and sold themselves to foreign powers will never be forgiven or excused because they have made themselves tools in foreign hands. He said Saudn will dissociate itself from them. They only repeat their masters' words. He refuted their claims of being patriots and said how can they be patriots if they attack national projects and kill innocent people?

The president said that we will not oppress any opposition element provided he is free from foreign influence. We will crack-down on pockets [of conspiracy] and not on those who differ with us in matters of opinion. He said that he would exert his utmost to confront [word indistinct] and that the People's Armed Forces will remain our shield in preventing fragmentation and division. He affirmed his sincerity to the national unity principles.

The president made it clear that the decentralization measures have not been violated and that the authority in the southern part of the country is still in the hands of the (?people) and their institutions. The president said: Regardless of opinions on the decentralization experiment, the final judge will be the Sudanese people and their constitutional institutions.

President Numayri appealed to all those who carry weapons in southern Sudan to return to their units and villages. He stressed that the revolution will grant general amnesty. He pointed out that every bullet fired by those will be against the kinfolk and brothers, and is aimed at destroying their homes. President Numayri has sworn that the will of the nation will be dear under a unity where there will be no indifference or compromise. [Words indistinct]

President Numayri stressed that patience does not mean indifference and desire for peace does not mean capitulation. He said that the day will come when we will fight aggression wherever it may be. [Passage indistinct]

President Numayri touched on the implementation of Islamic law. He pointed out that the Islamic religion, which has been adopted by Sudan as a course, recognizes Christianity as a heavenly religion. It is also a revitalization of the values of all religions and all virtues. President Numayri said: The Islamic religion along with the other religions is the course that Sudan has announced and committed itself to. It is a course for life and not against it. It meets with Christianity on divine services such as the call for goodness and the refusal of vice. The Islamic course that Sudan has announced is a victory for all religions without racial, educational, or national discrimination.

He said that the Islamic course is the course of every heavenly religion and that it does not contradict other religions, but

integrates them. He said that Sudan will not allow attempts that seek to exploit religion to create fragmentation and division. President Numayri said: Coexistence among religions in Sudan will continue to be an example of brotherhood and tolerance. He explained that Sudan could be the only country that celebrates the Prophet Muhammad's day and Christmas as pan-Arab and religious occasions.

He said that the vile attempts which seek to link the Islamic course with acts of sabotage in southern Sudan are desperate attempts. He pointed out that the establishment of three regions in southern Sudan is a response to the citizens' opinions. He said: The judge is the citizens' opinion. Therefore, if the citizens decide to unite or divide the regions, then their decision will be implemented. He said that this applies to all Sudan's regions. President Numayri pointed out that some citizens in western Sudan had called for the establishment of two regions in western Sudan in Kordofan and Darfur. He said that the partitioning of southern Sudan into three regions is the result of the citizens' desire there.

President Numayri stressed that the claims of those who feed the acts of sabotage and who say that what is taking place in southern Sudan is a confrontation between the Islamic north and the Christian south are a repetition of what is taking place in Lebanon. He said that Sudan knows those who stand behind these acts of sabotage. He said we know this plan [words indistinct] Sudan's example of national unity is against Al-Qadhdhafi. He said that Al-Qadhdhafi is the one who finances those who act against the Ethiopian Government [as received]. He stressed that Sudan will not stand idle before Al-Qadhdhafi's plots. He said that Sudan can return the blows and strikes, and pointed out that Sudan will continue to call for peace and dialogue in the continent and the whole world. President Numayri called on the brothers to expose Al-Qadhdhafi's schemes.

President Numayri asserted that the cornerstone in Sudan's foreign relations is based on protecting security and peace, confronting any attempt to shake stability and general reassurance, and condemning infiltration, sabotage, violence and threats. He added that these relations are also based on mutual respect for national sovereignty rights, international borders, the security and safety of all the region's peoples, and their right to determine their political and social systems without any interference, trusteeship, coercion, and threats.

He also said: Africa is suffering from drought and famine, and the dangers of epidemics and disease also threaten it. Therefore, we should save it from the pains of internal wars, the destruction of invasion and aggression, and the spread of intrigues and disturbances.

President Numayri said: We should struggle against the evil forces that are trying to draw the continent into zones of foreign influence and into the paws of hegemony and foreign ambitions. He added: We should direct our policies toward solving the continent's problems through peaceful means, dialogue, and the spirit of African brotherhood. We will assert Sudan's determination to protect its national entity, defend the safety of its territories, and not to make deals at the expense of its dignity and independence or to submit to foreign influence or ambitions. He

also added: We will resist with all our power policies of interference in other peoples' affairs, expansionist ambitions, violations of the rights of national sovereignty, and all attempts to create disturbances and carry out acts of infiltration and sabotage.

President Numayri also called on Africa's real friends to assist Africa in confronting drought, hunger, and disease as well as in returning the refugees, protecting peace and stability, and respecting the sovereignty and the national honor of the continent's countries. He also said that there will never be any retreat from the principles of autonomy and the people's authority whatever the ordeals and conspiracies may be. He also pledged that the autonomy will achieve its real meaning in expressing the masses' will and values without any coercion [word indistinct]. He said that the regional governments should comply with defined programs, and the political, legislative, and executive organs should bear their full responsibility in this regard and take decisive measures and abide by integrity to confront corruption and corruptors.

President Numayri also asserted that Sudan, with its democratic system, institutions, and values, will not use the policy of repression. He added: We will not chase the adversaries and violators, and we will adhere to patience in holding dialogue and exchanging views. He also pledged, at the end of his speech, that the will of the unified Sudanese people will be above any other will and that the sovereignty of the Sudanese homeland will be stronger than any conspiracy. He swore that he will sacrifice his blood and life for Sudan's unity.

He also said: Our objectives are represented by building Sudan, and God will help us as long as we adhere to unity against disunity, to accord against differences, and to the peace and unity of our ranks.

Al-Qadhdhafi Admits 'Interference'

EA042103 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammār al-Qadhdhafi has admitted interfering in the internal affairs of Sudan. That is precisely what leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri confirmed in his historic speech to the nation yesterday on the occasion of national unity day.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that he had concluded an alliance for the liberation of Sudan with what he called the revolution of southern Sudan. Al-Qadhdhafi said that what he called the popular revolution will grow in Sudan, and tomorrow it will extend to Egypt. He made this admission, which was carried by the official Libyan news agency, at a celebration marking the seventh anniversary of the founding of the Libyan Jamahiriyyah. The agency carried it yesterday, but it was delivered by al-Qadhdhafi in a speech the day before yesterday.

Yesterday, in his address to the nation on the occasion of national unity day, leader President Numayri referred to Mu'ammār al-Qadhdhafi's alliances and friendships with international and regional forces in order to fragment of the national unity of Sudan and Chad. He pointed out that Al-Qadhdhafi was behind

the attempted acts of sabotage against national unity in our country because Al-Qadhdhafi is always opposed our progress. However, he is surely aware that the strength of our national unity in Sudan is a real threat to his disruptive designs in the Arab region, the African Continent, and everywhere else.

His excellency reiterated Sudan's conviction that regional and internal problems should be solved through dialogue. Sudan has achieved a model [numudhaj] in the south of the country, but it is a model hostile to the Al-Qadhdhafi's ambitions and mad dreams. He is working to achieve them by fragmenting the homelands of others and infighting between people of the same homeland. He said Mu'ammār al-Qadhdhafi had been arming puppets, enemies of their own countries, everywhere. Al-Qadhdhafi is the main financier and provider of weapons against Arab unity.

With regard to Ethiopia, he pointed out that the Ethiopians regarded al-Qadhdhafi as a loyal friend, unaware that he is the foremost provider of finance for all the weapons with which people are fighting against the Ethiopian Government in Addis Ababa.

The president stressed that Sudan, with its faith, structure and will, is capable of striking two blows for one and two slaps for one. He said if Mu'ammār al-Qadhdhafi wants a war of attrition with Sudan, then Sudan will fight him and triumph over him, God willing.

Chevron To Resume Work

JN031206 Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 3 (SUNA) — President of the republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today announced that Chevron Oil Company of Sudan will resume its work within a week, and expressed hope that work would resume in Jonglie Canal and other development projects. In his address on the occasion of the National Unity Day, Numayri said that subversive activities had been directed against the two biggest projects in southern Sudan — Jonglei and oil prospection projects. President Numayri, referring to a recent event in the South, vowed that Sudan would not be another Biafra for Katanga.

Egypt's Ghali Stop in Khartoum; Makes Statement

JN041912 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum March 4 (SUNA) — Egyptian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali stopped over here today noon on his way to Cairo. [as received] Ghali has participated in the works of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Ministerial conference held in Addis Ababa. In a press statement following his arrival Ghali said there had been complete coordination between the Sudanese and the Egyptian diplomacy during the conference on the issues discussed and particularly on the questions of Chad, Western Sahara, and Namibia. Dr Ghali was received and seen off by Deputy Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman and Egyptian Ambassador to Khartoum Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif.

ETHIOPIA

Sudanese Rebels To Turn Over 2 W. German Hostages

NC030900 Paris AFP in English 0849 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, March 3 (AFP) — The Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) fighting the Khartoum government of President Ja'far Numayri is releasing two European hostages captured in an attack on a French construction company in southern Sudan about 3 weeks ago, Ethiopian television reported here.

The SPLA appealed to the Ethiopian Government to handle the transfer of expecting West German national Ursula Morson and her son, who were captured by the SPLA during an attack on the French International Construction Company (CCI) in southern Sudan's Upper Nile region about 3 weeks ago, the television said last night.

Mrs. Morson and her son, who were among six foreign CCI workers taken hostage some 12 miles south of Malakal, capital of Sudan's Upper Nile region, were being released "on purely humanitarian grounds," according to an SPLA spokesman quoted by the television. The release was a gesture of goodwill toward the CCI, which is working on the Jonglei Canal, and the other hostages were in good health and receiving "proper care and treatment," the spokesman added.

The attack on the CCI camp had been an act of protest "against the repressive policies pursued and the injustices perpetrated by the Sudanese Government," the spokesman said. The attack was staged following several warnings to the CCI and the American Chevron and French Total oil companies to stop projects in southern Sudan that were heavily defended by units of the Sudanese Army, the spokesman said.

The Ethiopian Government was cooperating in the hostage transfer, the TV said quoting a Foreign Ministry spokesman. The Foreign Ministry spokesman reiterated Ethiopia's commitment to non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states and said the problems in southern Sudan were an "exclusively internal affair of the Sudanese Government."

The West German, Kenyan, and French Embassies said they had received no word concerning the reported release of Mrs Morson and her son Lloyd.

The other hostages are French technicians Michel Dupire and Yves Parissene, Kenyan pilot Gwynne Morson, who is Mrs Morson's husband, and British technician Ian Bain.

Government Claims Influx of 300,000 Somali Refugees

EA031827 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] According to studies conducted by experts of international organizations, about 300,000 people have fled from Somalia into

Ethiopia over the past 8 months. This was disclosed in a statement issued by the RRC [Relief and Rehabilitation Commission] today. The commission stated that most of these people had fled from Somalia to escape the Siad Barre government's forcible conscription into the Army, where the people serve as cannon fodder, and to avoid the general chaos and turmoil in Somalia.

The commission stressed that Ethiopia would not hesitate to receive the refugees who flee from their homes due to the misdeeds and victimization being perpetrated against them. The commission stated that it had formed a higher governmental committee to study the situation with a view to finding a lasting solution to the problem.

KENYA

President Moi Cautions 'Subversive Elements'

EA051241 Nairobi KNA in English 2145 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Eldoret, 4 Mar (KNA) — His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi said last night that the government knew in detail about any secret meeting held to undermine the affairs of the state. He told those who held meetings in mobile matatus [as received], buses and other odd places in an effort to avert government attention that they were cheating themselves. The president further said that the government was aware that other meetings were held under the guise of parties.

Addressing thousands of Wananchi, including teams of traditional dancers and choirs, who entertained him at State Lodge, Eldoret, President Moi cautioned subversive elements that the government had its agents everywhere and that nothing prejudicial to state security could escape their attention. He called upon the people of Uasin Gishu to forget their ethnic origins and unite in order to better their life. He pointed out that tribalism was propagated by colonial masters in order to prolong their misrule.

The president further called on the local leaders not to backbite one another but instead work for the unity and prosperity of their people without any tribal considerations. Noting that a second university, a polytechnic and a teachers college were to be built in Eldoret, President Moi called on various departments to ensure that the right infrastructures such as water supplies were available to service the projects. He called upon the law enforcement agencies in the area to crack down on lawless elements.

GHANA

British Minister of State Arrives on 3-Day Visit

*AB031350 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] The British minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, is in Accra for a 3-day official visit to Ghana. He told newsmen on arrival today that he is in Ghana to exchange views on the country's economic situation, African, and other international issues. Mr Rifkind commended the bold economic steps being taken by the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] to revive the economy. He announced that more than 5 and 1/4 million pounds sterling in the form of assistance has been given Ghana by Britain since last November to help rebuild the economy.

Mr Rifkind observed that relations between Ghana and Britain have been cordial over the years. The minister, who flew in from Guinea, will meet the chairman of the PNDC, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, and other government officials.

Assesses Southern African Situation

*AB040852 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT
4 Mar 84*

[Text] The British minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, has said the recent development in southern Africa can have far-reaching effects on the politics in the area. Talking to the GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation] in Accra, he emphasized that while everyone is hopeful for a change in the apartheid system in South Africa, it is however proper to have a good working relationship as a means of speeding up the independence of Namibia. According to Mr Rifkind, Britain and the other Western Contact Group members have been doing all they can to encourage the early independence of the territory, so that Africa's colonial history can finally be brought to a close. On the release by South Africa of the founder of the SWAPO, Mr Toivo ja Toivo, after 16 years in jail, Mr Rifkind said this may be an indication that South Africa is ready to see to Namibia's independence.

The minister also referred to the problems of development in Africa, and said this differs from one country to the other but all these countries realize that the economic problems can only be solved through hard work and not by rhetoric or slogans. He described this growing awareness for hard work as a very welcome phenomenon. Mr Rifkind hoped his visit will afford him the opportunity to learn at first hand about the country and explore ways and means of strengthening further the cordial relations between Ghana and Britain. The minister is flying to Kumasi this morning for an audience with the Asantehene [traditional chief] (Osunkwo Kokuware). He will return to Accra in the evening for a reception at the British high commissioner's residence.

GUINEA

Toure Receives British Foreign Office Delegation

*AB031110 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Excerpts] President Ahmed Sekou Toure, head of state and supreme leader of the revolution, today received in audience at the Presidential Palace a high-level delegation from the British Foreign Office. The British delegation was led by (Holman Storm), secretary of state at the Foreign Office in charge of relations with Africa, and it included three other officials. The visit falls within the framework of bilateral exchanges between the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and the United Kingdom. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding. The delegation was earlier received in audience by Ismael Toure, member of the National Political Bureau and minister of mines and geology.

LIBERIA

Doe Recovers From Illness, To Return From Brussels

*AB021820 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Text] Reports reaching us from Belgium say the health of the head of state, Commander in Chief Samuel Doe, who is on a visit to that kingdom, has improved following a brief illness on Wednesday. According to a BBC reporter in Brussels, the head of state failed to appear at the EEC Headquarters in Brussels where European and Liberian officials, including the Liberian ambassador to Belgium and the EEC, had gathered earlier for his arrival. After waiting for a while, the Liberian ambassador was informed that the head of state had been taken to hospital and that he was suffering from a digestive problem. This followed the lunch the head of state had on Wednesday with industrialists. Shortly afterwards, the Belgian Foreign Office said that the head of state's hospitalization was for pure preventive reasons and that he will be able to leave for Monrovia as planned on Saturday, tomorrow.

NIGERIA

More on Clashes Between Security Forces, Muslims**Death Toll at 1,000**

AB041235 Paris AFP in French 1154 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, 4 Mar (AFP) — Fighting was still going on Saturday in Yola, the city in the eastern part of Nigeria where the death toll of clashes between Muslim fanatics and security forces has now risen to 1,000, according to an estimate by the *SUNDAY NEW NIGERIAN*, a government Sunday newspaper published in the north of the country. The army detachment called in for reinforcement, as police could no longer contain the situation, has since Friday been "bombing" the enclave occupied by the fanatics, the paper stated.

While official sources of the hospital announced that 250 persons were killed since the disturbances started, the paper's correspondent in the city pointed out that according to "knowledgeable" sources, this figure is below the reality. According to the paper, nearly 500 bodies have already been carried away from the hospital for burial in a mass grave. The journalist added that several corpses of fanatics lynched by the crowd are still lining the roads of the Gongola State capital. In addition, the fanatics' enclave is reported to contain several corpses of fanatics killed by the police as well as those of innocent citizens massacred by followers of the sect. It has not been possible to remove all these bodies. The total number of victims since the clashes began last Monday was estimated by the journalist at about 1,000.

Many innocent citizens are reported to have lost their lives while leaving the enclave held by the fanatics, because, according to the weekly, the police are shooting at anything coming out of the section of the city still under the control of the "Maitatsine" (name given after the founder of the sect who was killed in December 1980 along with more than 4,000 people in the city of Kano in the north of Nigeria in similar clashes).

The situation is very much confused in Yola, which is totally paralyzed by the clashes. Food supplies have become very rare, because traders are refusing to keep their shops open, and many inhabitants of the affected areas are refusing to go home. The troops have had to set up refugee camps where, according to the paper, there is shortage of water and food supplies. Outbreaks of whooping cough and measles are already reported in these camps. People are living under constant fear, and though the camps are protected by the army it is rumored that some fanatics have infiltrated these camps, the paper further writes. The weekly further denies allegations of the arrest of Alhaji Musa Mankaniki, the leader of the fanatics, who is reported to have been seen in the enclave on Thursday carrying two guns, abusing policemen and challenging them to attack him instead of waiting there like "women." According to the weekly one of the fanatics, who was on treatment at Yola hospital, has reportedly stated that he would be happy to die, as he had killed three policemen.

Army Subdues Last Stronghold

AB050608 Paris AFP in English 0358 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Lagos, March 5 (AFP) — The Nigerian Army has subdued the last resisting stronghold of a fanatical Muslim sect which has caused the death of hundreds of people in the north-eastern town of Yola, Nigerian television announced Sunday night. One of the officers in charge of the operation was quoted as saying that the Army had killed and captured a number of the rebels, who belong to the Maitatsine sect.

Measures Introduced Against Uprisings

AB041355 Lagos NAN in English 1352 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Kano, Mar 4 (NAN) — The Kano military governor, Air Commodore Hamza Abdullahi, said in Kano that the government had introduced measures to check religious uprising in the state. Commodore Abdullahi told the minister of internal affairs, Brig Mohammed Magoro, who called on him in his office on

Friday, that Kano State had in the past witnessed a number of violent uprisings, adding that the state government would do everything possible to forestall further religious uprising. The governor said that to guarantee security, law enforcement agents had clamped down on criminals and arrested suspected thieves and armed robbers and that the government would soon deport illegal immigrants. He observed that if immigration officers at the border points really did their work, there would be no illegal immigrants in the country. "With a little more seriousness, dedication and honesty, immigration officials could prevent illegal aliens from entering the country," the governor remarked.

Earlier, Brig Magoro said that the federal government would soon issue a policy statement on the country's security, explaining that this was necessary because the federal government was worried about the country's internal security.

The minister urged the state government to carry out raids on illegal immigrants, either weekly or monthly, saying that such raids would emphasize the country's seriousness on the issue.

Refugees Told To Return

AB041406 Lagos NAN in English 1402 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Yola, March 4 (NAN) — Both the army and police barracks in Yola, which were turned into 'refugee' camps following the religious disturbances which broke out in the early hours of Monday, are now being decongested. According to a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) in Yola, some of the people had traveled out of Yola to neighbouring towns while others, mostly nonindigenes, were believed to have traveled to their hometowns.

Transport fares have gone up, as it now costs between 40 to 50 naira to travel from Yola to Onitsha, a journey that cost N20 before the disturbances. Transport fares to neighbouring towns have also risen by about 100 percent. An appeal by the police to residents of some areas in Yola to return to the areas which had been declared safe was yet to be heeded, as houses in such areas were locked up and the places looked deserted.

Idiagbon Discusses Upcoming Trials of Ex-Officials

AB050805 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] A decree to institute a panel to try ex-politicians will soon be promulgated. The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, said in the maiden edition of a Radio Nigeria public affairs program, Matters of the Moment, yesterday that the draft was awaiting for appreciation by the Supreme Military Council. He said the Federal Military Government would explore all avenues to repatriate former politicians in exile as well as recover their ill-gotten wealth.

Brig Idiagbon pointed out that the ongoing retirement exercise was not designed to witch-hunt or demoralize civil servants but to rid the public service of corruption and indolence. He said the government was already tackling the problem of scarcity of essential commodities to alleviate the problems of the people. The

chief of staff explained that the government had issued import licenses to reputable companies with nationwide distribution network for the importation of essential commodities. He said incentives would also be given to local manufacturers to enable them to achieve self-sufficiency within the shortest possible time.

Brig Idiagbon said that a committee had been instituted to harmonize the educational system in the country. He stated that as soon as the committee submitted its report the government would take steps to ensure uniformity in education throughout the country.

The chief of staff said it was the primary responsibility of the present administration to revive the nation's economy and that the government would not be led into taking rash decisions. He pledged the government's wish to be responsible to the wish of the people and upheld the principle of public accountability.

Press Sees Increasing Fraud in Oil Industry
AB021815 Lagos International Service in English
 1430 GMT 2 Mar 84

[From the Press Review]

[Text] *THE BUSINESS CONCORD*, *THE DAILY STAR*, and *THE GUARDIAN* examine the increasing cases of fraud in the nation's oil industry. In its own comment, *THE BUSINESS CONCORD* emphasizes the need to completely revamp the oil industry because of the widespread fraud. As a first step, the paper suggests that the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC, should be decentralized. To achieve a more effective marketing of Nigerian crude, *THE BUSINESS CONCORD* advises the Federal Military Government to publicly identify and flush out the disreputable middlemen in the sector.

THE DAILY STAR, in assessing malpractices in the oil industry, calls on the minister for petroleum and energy to conduct a probe into the scandal. In its own contribution on the issue, *THE GUARDIAN* suggests that all those found guilty of the fraud should face long prison sentences, while collaborating foreign companies should be nationalized.

SIERRA LEONE

Fourah Bay College Scheduled To Reopen 10 March
AB021957 Paris AFP in English 1735 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Freetown, March 2 (AFP) — The reopening of Fourah Bay College, scheduled for tomorrow, is being put back one week to "allow time for all necessary arrangements."

The college has been closed since January 12 following student demonstrations which sparked off looting and rioting.

The government decided at a cabinet meeting yesterday to reopen the college tomorrow, but then found this would cause problems such as food supplies and scholarship fees.

UPPER VOLTA

CDR Demands 'Revolutionary Sanctions' Against Unions
AB041153 Paris AFP in French 1212 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Ouagadougou, 3 Mar (AFP) — The Ouagadougou Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] on Thursday urged the National Revolutionary Council (CNR) to show "more rigor and firmness in the face of any enemy of the people," it was learned officially on Friday.

The CDR general delegates who met for their general assembly on Thursday asked the Council to outline a clearer stand on the trade unions and demanded in particular that "a revolutionary sanction" be taken against the National Union of African Teachers of Upper Volta (SNEAHV).

The 28th SNEAHV Congress, which was held in the early days of last August, dissociated itself from the proclamation made by the CNR on 4 August, when it took over power.

The capital's CDR also believe in their motion that the SNEAHV supported the Military Committee of Recovery for National Progress (CMRPN, which ruled between 1980 and 1982) and "kept an accessory silence over the fascist antiworkers and antidemocratic acts" committed by the government of Colonel Saye Zerbo. According to the CDR, the motion voted at the SNEAHV congress on the return to normal constitutional life, as well as the statement on general policy, "demonstrate that it deeply belongs to the defunct reactionary political classes."

Late September, it will be recalled, the SNEAHV accused the CNR of being "the refuge of a certain political party". It also accused the CNR of taking "measures against workers and trade unions." This is the first time, it is noted, that the need for "sanctions" is being discussed by the CDR, while the CNR had always stated that "no repressive measure would be taken against the trade unions."

The Ouagadougou CDR delegates also passed a motion of "indignation" on the autonomous Upper Voltan Magistrates Trade Union (SAMAV) which has demanded that the magistrates "sort out those who are really committed to the people." It will be recalled that SAMAV last week, during its first national congress held in Ouagadougou, denounced the "unwarranted interference" of the CDRs in the dispensation of justice.

Finally, the capital's CDR General Assembly adopted a motion warning any person or mass organization which, "under the cover of a recovered democracy, would persist on the path of destabilization."

Last November the Ouagadougou CDR had cautioned the CNR to resume the dismissal of civil servants, which was suspended for a time.

ANGOLA

FAPLA: 466 UNITA Troops Killed in Recent Battles

*MB030829 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] The Angolan Armed Forces have annihilated 466 counter-revolutionaries of the UNITA puppet gang over the past few days. In operations carried out in Benguela, Cuanza Sul, Moxico, Huambo, Bie, Lunda Sul, and Huila Provinces, the Armed Forces, in addition to killing that number of counterrevolutionaries, also captured large quantities of war materiel and military equipment and released hundreds of civilians who were forced to live in the bush by the enemy. The People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola's major operations in Cuanza Sul and Moxico Provinces were a great success, and UNITA lost more than 289 men.

BOTSWANA

Ministers Meet With RSA Officials on Economic Matters

*MB021323 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] It has just been announced that representatives of the Governments of Botswana and South Africa met in Cape Town on Tuesday to exchange views on current economic and other developments. A release from the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Water Affairs says the South African delegation was led by the minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Roelof Botha, and the minister of commerce and industries, Mr de Villiers. The Botswana delegation was led by the minister of mineral resources and water affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, and the minister of external affairs, Mr Archibald Mogwe.

LESOTHO

Economic Minister Assails RSA Tax on Basotho

*MB021745 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Text] The Lesotho Government has made it clear to the South African Government that Lesotho citizens should not be compelled to pay income tax in a foreign country. This was stated by the minister of planning, economic affairs, and employment, the Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, after holding talks with the South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, on the decision by Pretoria to impose income tax on the Basotho working in South Africa.

The minister said that the Lesotho Government stated that it would like the Basotho citizens working in South Africa to be taxed by their own government. The Honorable Sekhonyana has, however, appealed to the Basotho working in South Africa to maintain restraint when the Lesotho Government is holding negotiations with South Africa on this issue. The minister further stated [words indistinct] as a result of remaining problems.

MOZAMBIQUE

President Machel Hails Pact With RSA as 'Victory'

*MB041033 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] In Maputo yesterday, President Samora Machel toasted the Mozambique delegation to the South African talks and called the nonaggression pact with that neighboring state a victory for the People's Republic of Mozambique. The basis of this pact was the draft that the Mozambique delegation took to the conference table in Cape Town last Friday. The Mozambique head of state, in a talk with the Mozambique delegation to the Cape Town talks, commented that this is a victory for the socialist peace policy of our Frelimo Party and our government.

Veloso Sees Agreement 'Soon'

*MB041252 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] The minister in the Presidency for economic affairs, Jacinto Veloso, has said Mozambique and South Africa will sign an agreement for nonaggression and good neighborliness very soon. Major General Veloso was speaking to reporters in Maputo yesterday on his return from Cape Town, where he led the Mozambique delegation to talks with South Africa. He said their agreement should be signed as quickly as possible and will be monitored by a supervisory commission that will function for as long as was necessary. He described the latest round of talks with Pretoria as very important. Gen Veloso told reporters that South Africa's Prime Minister P.W. Botha and the South African delegation at the talks have shown willingness to achieve peace and stability between the two countries. The South Africans were led by Foreign Minister Roelof Botha. The Mozambique delegation to the Cape Town talks was received by President Samora Machel in Maputo yesterday afternoon. The president described the progress made as a victory of the socialist policy of peace of the Frelimo Party and our government.

Failure of 'Armed Banditry'

AB021307 Dakar PANA in English 1250 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Maputo, 2 Mar (AIM/PANA) — Mozambican President Samora Machel has said that military and political successes against the South African sponsored bandit gangs in Mozambique have opened up prospects for peace in southern Africa. The president was speaking at a ceremony in Maputo yesterday to receive letters of credence from Poland's new ambassador to Mozambique, Stanislaw Szymanski.

The failure of the policy of armed banditry, because of the political and military victories won by our people, President Samora said, has led to a new dynamic, opening up prospects for peace in the region. He said that the current talks with South Africa have come about within the framework of this victory and aim at finding a correct basis for applying the principles of our socialist policy of peace, in order to establish good neighbourly

relations and peaceful co-existence between neighbouring states with different social systems.

A Mozambican ministerial-level delegation is presenting today to the South African authorities in Cape Town a draft proposal for a non-aggression agreement. The draft proposal has been drawn up following a series of negotiations between the Mozambican and South African authorities on security in the region and future relations between the two countries.

President Samora told the new Polish ambassador that Mozambique is with the international community in condemning the apartheid and bantustan policy as a crime against humanity. We believe that is possible to establish equality between people, irrespective of their race, the president declared.

Machel Meets With Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister

*MB021602 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] President Samora Machel yesterday received the deputy foreign minister of Cuba, Oscar Oramas, who is touring southern Africa. The two men discussed bilateral cooperation and the international situation, with particular reference to southern Africa and Central America. Mr Oramas brought warm greetings from Cuban leader Fidel Castro, and was briefed by President Samora on the political, military, and diplomatic situation in southern Africa.

President Machel Receives Message From Mugabe

*MB031143 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] President Samora Machel has received a message from Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. The message was delivered by the Zimbabwean trade minister, who was received by the Mozambique head of state in Maputo yesterday.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Founder Freed From Prison, Hailed as Hero

AB021830 Lagos NAN in English 1552 GMT 2 Mar 84

[By Adewale Fatona]

[Text] Harare, March 2 (NAN) — SWAPO's founder, Mr Herman Toivo ja Toivo, was given a hero's welcome by jubilant supporters when he was freed from prison yesterday and vowed to continue the struggle for the independence of Namibia.

Mr Toivo ja Toivo, set free after serving 16 years of a 20-year sentence in the Robben Island prison, demanded the immediate release of all SWAPO detainees and the immediate implementation of the UN Resolution 435 on Namibia's independence.

The southern Africa correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) quoting reports from Windhoek, the Nami-

bian capital, said that Mr Toivo ja Toivo told newsmen after his release that he expected the implementation of Resolution 435.

Mr Toivo, 59, was imprisoned on January 26, 1968, by the South African Government after being convicted under its terrorism act. Before he was sentenced by the Pretoria Supreme Court, Mr Toivo ja Toivo told the court that "as a Namibian, a South African court has no jurisdiction to try me."

Born in 1924 at Ungundu in Namibia's Owambo region, Mr Toivo ja Toivo was trained in northern Namibia as a teacher. He later joined the South African Army and served in Italy and Egypt during World War II. In 1958, he founded the Owambo People's Congress and mobilised Namibian workers in Cape Town. As a result of his political activities, the South African Government deported him from Cape Town to Namibia in 1966 and placed him under house arrest. In 1967, Mr Toivo ja Toivo was arrested with 32 other Owambo People's Congress activists and convicted for conspiring to replace the Government of Namibia with a SWAPO government.

Nujoma 'Overwhelmed' by Release

*MB030718 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma has said his organization will intensify the freedom struggle against South Africa in order to speed up independence for Namibia. In a statement released in Lusaka following the release of veteran SWAPO activist Herman Toivo ja Toivo from jail by the South African Government, Mr Nujoma said Mr Toivo's release comes at a time when a Namibian struggle for freedom, national independence, justice, and peace in the war-torn country is at its most crucial and decisive stage and form.

Nujoma said political and diplomatic efforts, and if need be military action, against the colonialists would be intensified to speed up the freedom struggle for independence, possibly within this year. He said he was overwhelmed by the release of the SWAPO veteran, wishing him good health and strength, saying it was the express wish of the leadership of SWAPO to make his return to his fatherland he had suffered for delightful and successful.

Toivo-Nujoma Meeting Set

*MB050509 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English
4 Mar 83 p 2*

[Text] Mr Herman Toivo ja Toivo, released this week after 16 years on Robben Island, will fly to an undisclosed destination in Africa for a meeting with SWAPO President Mr Sam Nujoma on Friday.

Mr Toivo will apply for a passport tomorrow. The meeting with Mr Nujoma has been requested by the SWAPO president.

Senior SWAPO sources confirmed yesterday that the SWAPO delegation to see Mr Nujoma will consist of the seven top leaders

of SWAPO within Namibia. Besides Mr Toivo the delegation will comprise:

Pastor Hendrik Witbooi, vice president; Mr Dan Tjongarero, deputy national chairman; Mr Niko Bessinger, joint secretary for foreign affairs; Mr Crispin Matongo, national executive member; Mr Phillip Tjerije, secretary for publicity and information, and Mr Franz Kambangula, secretary for transport.

Mr Toivo's return to Namibia after 18 years in jail — 16 on Robben Island and two under house arrest and as an awaiting-trial prisoner — could change the face of internal Namibian politics, SWAPO sources said in Windhoek yesterday. "South Africa took a big gamble in releasing Mr Toivo, and the gamble has backfired," it was claimed.

The sources maintained that for years it had been believed that Mr Toivo, jailed for 20 years in 1968, would emerge from prison as the "moderate voice to challenge the leadership of Nujoma." He was seen as an old-style black nationalist who would have no truck with the socialist orientation the movement has taken since after his imprisonment, and that he would either join the SWAPO Democrat Party of Mr Andreas Shipanga, or precipitate a leadership crisis within SWAPO because of his immense personal following.

His release, it is claimed in some quarters, was aimed at splitting SWAPO to the point where Mr Nujoma's leadership was in question, and South Africa could then begin moves to negotiate an independence settlement with the "Toivo wing" of the party. But his release has been turned into a SWAPO propaganda victory.

Katutura township has been turned almost overnight into a huge SWAPO meeting ground. Workers are openly wearing SWAPO colours and singing SWAPO songs, and even social gatherings are turning into mini-SWAPO rallies.

Mr Toivo quashed speculation that he would align himself with Mr Shipanga or that he would challenge Mr Nujoma's leadership within an hour of his release from Windhoek Central Prison at 6:15 pm on Thursday.

First he told journalists and well-wishers at Mr Tjongarero's Katutura home on Thursday that he had turned his back on Mr Shipanga when the SWAPO-D leader had come to visit him in prison on Thursday morning.

"If he is an enemy of SWAPO, he cannot be my friend," he told the *SUNDAY TIMES*. Mr Toivo not only turned his back on Mr Shipanga — an event denied by Mr Shipanga — but also refused to see Mr Moses Katjioungua, leader of SWANU [South-West African National Union], because of his participation in the Multiparty Conference [MPC], and Mr Solomon Mifima, former SWAPO secretary of labour, who is now with the conservative Christian Democratic Action Party of Mr Peter Kalangula.

On the question of a possible challenge to Mr Nujoma's leadership, Mr Toivo told a press conference: "I am a servant of SWAPO. Whatever decisions are taken about my future by

SWAPO, I will abide by. If I am asked to fulfill a particular duty, I will do it."

In a personal message to Mr Toivo cabled from Mr Nujoma in Lusaka on Friday, the SWAPO president sent "deep-founded congratulations of our vanguard movement, SWAPO, whose foundation and conscious growth you so much inspired."

Mr Toivo himself made it clear he is a militant member of the organisation. "SWAPO had no alternative but to take up arms and fight the colonial regime and root them out of Namibia.

"SWAPO is still fighting. We will continue fighting until we get our independence and when we get our independence, we will not be free until all our brothers and sisters in South Africa are free from the apartheid regime," he said.

In an interview with the *SUNDAY TIMES*, he labelled the MPC an attempt to establish "a Muzorewa type of government."

Mr Toivo said that his "incarceration has cemented my faith to work harder for the liberation of Namibia."

He believed his release had been brought about by the Multiparty Conference, "and I think the Americans are behind all these movements." "Their foreign policy has failed in Lebanon, and in South and Central America, and I think they are now trying to do something here which can be used as a winning card for Reagan."

'Top Post' Awaits Toivo

MB030515 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT
2 Mar 84

[Text] A SWAPO spokesperson says Toivo is welcome to return to a top post in the organization, and his release will not split SWAPO. SWAPO's secretary for international affairs, Peter Mueshihange, says Toivo has every right to resume his role before imprisonment, because there has never been any competition for leadership in SWAPO.

RSA-Angola Initiatives Assailed

MB031153 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Herman Toivo ja Toivo, the Namibian nationalist who was released in Windhoek this week, has told a press conference that his mission is to liberate Namibia. Mr ja Toivo, one of the founders of SWAPO, said the organization was the vanguard of the Namibian liberation struggle, and he would carry out any decision taken by SWAPO.

There had been speculation that the South Africans had released Mr ja Toivo, who had 4 more years of a 20-year sentence to serve, with the aim of provoking a power struggle with SWAPO President Sam Nujoma. A message from Mr Nujoma, read at the press conference, welcomed Mr ja Toivo back into the organization at a time when the struggle for freedom and national independence is at its most crucial and most decisive stage.

Mr ja Toivo said the present peace initiative between South Africa and Angola was headed for failure, as it had been undertaken by the United States to give credit to the Reagan administration after a series of foreign policy failures.

Toivo Holds Press Conference

*MB030709 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1903 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Text] Windhoek, March 2, SAPA — The release of SWAPO founder member Mr Herman Toivo ja Toivo had come at a decisive stage in the independence struggle for SWA/Namibia, SWAPO's leader, Mr Sam Nujoma said in a message telexed to Windhoek today. The message was read out at a news conference tonight on the first day after Mr ja Toivo's release from jail.

SWAPO would intensify its effort on the political and diplomatic front, and the military campaign if necessary, to speed up independence this year, Mr Nujoma said.

In a policy statement to the conference, Mr ja Toivo said his mission was to liberate SWA/Namibia. "But even if Namibia is free of the oppression of the South African Government, and free of apartheid, we will not be free as long as our brothers and sisters are living in oppression in South Africa," he said. He added that SWAPO had a "fraternity relationship" with the banned South African movement, the ANC.

In an introduction to the meeting, SWAPO's joint secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Nico Bessinger, said Mr ja Toivo's arrest in 1967 had been an historic occasion. "It was the beginning of the armed struggle to liberate our beloved country," he said.

At the time of Mr ja Toivo's arrest, SWA/Namibia's borders were patrolled by police with sidearms. "Today the struggle has escalated to the point where we estimate we have more than 7,000 South African troops in our country," Mr Bessinger said.

Mr ja Toivo said it had been wrongly claimed in the past that blacks in SWA/Namibia wanted independence for the territory so that they could chase out whites from the country. "It is not the aim and objective of SWAPO," he said. "Those who regard themselves as Namibian citizens are free to live in Namibia, and share the difficulties together with the black people. Coloureds, Indians, Africans and whites are all Namibians who have accepted that they must live in this country in peace and harmony."

Mr ja Toivo said he had known the jailed ANC leaders, Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and others on Robben Island. "We lived as one family and shared our difficulties," he said. "I am very pleased to have known people of such calibre."

Asked about his future plans, Mr ja Toivo said: "I am a servant of the SWAPO organisation. Whatever decision is taken by the organisation I will carry it out."

Mr ja Toivo had indicated earlier that he would want to have a meeting with Mr Nujoma, but added that he did not have a

passport. Mr Bessinger said SWAPO would apply for a passport for Mr ja Toivo to enable him to travel abroad.

Looking back on the past, Mr ja Toivo said he had been jailed for his convictions and his beliefs, "not because I have stolen something from somebody." At first he had tried to achieve independence for SWA/Namibia through peaceful means, but in the end came to the realisation "we had no alternative but to take up arms."

Mr ja Toivo was reported to have received numerous telephone calls and cards from well-wishers after his release from prison last night. At the news conference today, a flower arrangement from the South African United Democratic Front decorated the table of the speakers.

Security Forces Track Guerrillas in Ovambo

*MB040438 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] Security forces in northern Namibia are continuing their search for nine SWAPO guerrillas who crossed into Ovambo. A statement by the South-West Africa Territory Force says the guerrillas have moved into Ovambo, but that dense bush is making tracking difficult. It says since the disengagement of South African forces in southern Angola, an estimated 200 SWAPO fighters have entered Namibia, 64 of whom have reportedly been killed. According to the Territory Force, a further 800 guerrillas are in southern Angola and are planning to enter Namibia.

Multiparty Conference Tells SWAPO To Free Detainees

*MB031026 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] The multiparty conference on the constitutional future of South-West Africa says SWAPO is under moral obligation to free those inhabitants of the territory it is holding in other countries. A statement to this effect has been issued in Windhoek by the chairman of the conference's media liaison committee, Dr Lucas de Vries.

Dr de Vries said that the conference welcomed the release of one of the founder members of SWAPO, Herman Toivo ja Toivo, but remained concerned about South-West African citizens who are being detained by SWAPO under harsh conditions. In its declaration of intent, the conference had committed itself to the release of people being held by either SWAPO or South Africa.

SWAPO Denies Holding Prisoners

*MB031028 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] SWAPO says it has no prisons and is holding no prisoners in any country. Information Secretary Nico Bessinger has made the statement in response to a call from the Multiparty Conference [MPC] in Namibia for SWAPO to release its political detainees. The MPC call follows the release from a South

African prison this week of SWAPO founder, Herman Toivo ja Toivo. Bessinger says he is aware of claims that Namibians are being held in Zambia at the instigation of SWAPO. But, he says, if this were true, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda would have released them. He points out that Kaunda has been instrumental in the current peace moves in southern Africa.

SWAPO Radio Rejects Multiparty Participation

MB020909 Harare Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT
29 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] One of the issues which dominated the Namibian press during the past was the propaganda campaign, concerted by racist South Africa with the help of some political optimists on the international scene, aimed at building credibility and recognition for the so-called multiparty conference. For example, *THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER* of 13 February this year published an article in which it was alleged that the president of Gabon, Mr Omar Bongo, has appealed to SWAPO to participate in the puppet multiparty conference. In an article published by *THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER* on 15 February same year, Dr Willie van Niekerk was quoted as having said that he will not talk with SWAPO unless the organization joins the puppet multiparty conference.

In that article, the colonial governor, Willie van Niekerk, asked the People's Organization to come to Windhoek and talk to the so-called multiparty conference. [words indistinct] Van Niekerk was also quoted in previous statements as having said that the puppet organization was capable of reaching an agreement on issues that will protect the soldiers being trained in Namibia.

And in *THE ADVERTISER* of 27 February an article appeared about the visit in Windhoek by the former commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and former United States secretary of state, General Alexander Haig, who has (?advertized) the puppet show in Windhoek. Welcoming Gen Haig, the Namibian Muzorewa, Moses Katjuongoa, (?maintained) that the puppet charade is an historic event and a new Namibian political [word indistinct]. As a conclusion, the optimistic Katjuongoa said, and we quote: We cherish the friendship between our two people, and while we are friends we will never let it die. Every newspaper editorial columnist, like (Bill Powell), and cartoonists like (Dirty Gene Travers) and [word indistinct], have lumped together their writing power to get some recognition for the multiparty conference sideshow. We would like to make this point very clear: that in no circumstance will SWAPO consider participating in the so-called multiparty conference, because SWAPO is a revolutionary liberation movement which has as its aim the liberation of Namibia for the benefit of all peoples irrespective of their color.

We are not puppets and sell-outs who are compromising the genuine liberation of their country for bags of money. We are Namibians and we know the best interests of our people. If there are some elements in this world who think that the Pretoria-created multiparty conference would be the best solution to the delicate questions for the liberation of Namibia, then they have

really miscalculated the imperialist maneuver. The so-called multiparty conference is being depicted as a quote, privately initiated, unquote, group by most of the Namibian, South African, and Western media, a fact which is obviously false and cheap propaganda. The so-called multiparty conference without any doubt is a Pretoria brainchild, like all the other colonial schemes Pretoria attempted to create in Namibia that now have collapsed or been thrown in the dustbin of history. The fact that the present puppet charade is being referred to as, quote, privately initiated, unquote, and Namibia's own initiative is a well calculated maneuver to mislead our people and the world as a whole, and, in doing this, to hide the real identity and the origins of this puppet group.

The fact alone that the racist Pretoria regime is now only talking to this group and even goes as far as to make propaganda for them are clear proof. We know full well that Pretoria is not ready to allow Namibia to proceed freely to freedom and independence, quote and unquote, at any cost. As Foreign Minister Botha said recently in South Africa's all-white Parliament, [words indistinct] simply means that Pretoria is only prepared to hand over the reins of power to the puppets who will rule Namibia as a client state to Pretoria. To achieve this, Pretoria is now advertising the so-called multiparty conference leaders as future Namibian leaders.

All those who believe that the multipuppet conference is a privately initiated group will have to take note of Willie van Niekerk's statements and utterances in recent months. The colonial governor for Namibia, Willie van Niekerk, is now the self-appointed organizing and propaganda secretary of the multiparty conference. All his statements and speeches since the beginning of the year are praising and congratulating this puppet charade for (?noteworthy) achievements. All his contacts and activities are directed at giving the multipuppet conference credibility, while the press at the other end are depicting the puppet group as the so-called Namibia's own initiative. All these are not innocent statements, but well calculated [word indistinct] of imperialism as manifested through the Pretoria regime.

In all this the American involvement is also significantly clear. Both South Africa and the United States have formulated a general strategy to build the multipuppet conference as an alternative to SWAPO in Namibia. This is simply why, for example, Chester Crocker in his last visit to southern Africa met only the multipuppet leaders, and Gen Haig also went to Windhoek to advertise them.

America is a multiracial society with heterogeneous interests. The two main classes that will be taken [word indistinct] in the American society are the haves and the have-nots, the exploiters and the exploited; and, therefore, anybody who claims to represent the Namibian people should be on the side of those who are [words indistinct]. Truly speaking, only the exploited class can be regarded as friends of the Namibian people, but not the exploiters. And to our knowledge, Gen Alexander Haig represents the wealthy class, the haves, the multinational corporations, and the military-industrial complex owners responsible for the exploitation of the Namibian mineral resources with little benefits to Namibia's people. These people obviously are not friends of Katjuongoa and company. It is not a surprise that Kat-

jiuongoa [word indistinct] continues to be (?thrilled) with American exploiters, because we know this lot. It will not be a surprise to us if we hear that he is only fulfilling his mission.

SOUTH AFRICA

Text of RSA-Mozambique Joint Statement on Talks *MB021934 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1919 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] Cape Town, March 2, SAPA — Here follows the full text of the joint statement issued by the South African and Mozambique negotiators in Cape Town tonight:

"Discussions took place in Cape Town today between the Mozambique and South African Governments. The South African delegation was led by myself [Foreign Minister Roelof Botha], assisted by Ministers Louis le Grange and Magnus Malan, and senior officials and officers of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service, the South African Defence Force and the South African Police. The Mozambique delegation was led by the minister in the Presidency for economic affairs, His Excellency General J. Veloso, assisted by Col Oscar Monteiro, minister of justice, Major-General Salesio Teodoro Nalyambipano, deputy minister of national defence and other senior Mozambique officials.

"The South African prime minister, The Honourable P.W. Botha, together with myself and ministers Le Grange and Malan received ministers Veloso and Monteiro and deputy ministers Nalyambipano and Vieira for one hour and reviewed progress made in the security negotiations and other matters relating to bilateral relations between the two countries.

"Both the delegations agreed on the principal features of the non-aggression and good neighborliness agreement between the two countries. The final text of the agreement will be ready for signature in the very near future. The date and venue for the signing of the agreement will be announced as soon as possible.

"The discussions will continue this evening with the purpose of finalising some outstanding details. The main thrust of the agreement is that it will provide that neither of the two countries will serve as a base for acts of aggression or violence against the other, and that both countries undertake not to use the territory of a third state for this purpose.

"The agreement will also provide for a joint security commission to supervise the implementation of the agreement.

"The meetings with President Samora Machel in Maputo on 20 February 1984 and with the South African prime minister, the Hon P.W. Botha, today in Cape Town were decisive in creating a climate of mutual understanding and for the positive results achieved today."

Botha Touts Economic Advantages

*MB050610 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 5 Mar 84*

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says that if the security agreement between South Africa and Mozambique succeeds, it will hold great economic advantages for southern Africa. He said in a television program that a successful agreement could create economic stability in the region, which in turn could attract greater investments from abroad. It could also promote trade between South Africa and Mozambique. This stability, said Mr Botha, could also flow over into neighboring countries like Swaziland, Zimbabwe, and Botswana.

Mr Botha said that a successful agreement with Mozambique could also have a favorable effect on South Africa's negotiations with Angola on the South-West African question, although this was more complicated on account of the involvement of the Soviet Union, the Cubans, and the United Nations in Angola.

Mr Botha also said that the agreement with Mozambique had not occurred overnight. There had been contact with Mozambique for many years, but the activities of the ANC in South Africa from Mozambique territory had presented a stumbling block. Mr Botha said that it could be expected that the ANC would try to undermine the peace initiative between South Africa and Mozambique.

Mr Botha said it was only human that the agreement should be viewed by both sides with a certain degree of uneasiness, but added that South Africa was ready to fulfill its commitment.

Concerning the broader aspects of the negotiations, Mr Botha said they were part of a wider attempt to communicate with African leaders. He said more and more African leaders were seeking communications with South Africa.

ANC Mozambique Presence Unaffected

*MB021830 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1813 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Excerpts] Cape Town, March 2, SAPA — The South African and Mozambique Governments today finalised the main points of agreement on a non-aggression pact to be signed in the near future.

The leaders of the two negotiating teams, South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and Mozambique's minister of economic affairs, General Jacinto Veloso, read the joint statement in English and Portuguese at a press conference held at the talks' venue tonight. The statement clarified that the main problem that had been resolved related to the activities of the banned African National Congress and the Mozambique National Resistance Movement, the MNR.

The governments had agreed that "neither of the two countries will serve as base for acts of aggression or violence against the other and that both countries undertake not to use the territory of a third state for this purpose."

The final details on other outstanding matters, mostly of an economic nature, will be thrashed out tonight as the talks begin a further round with a working dinner at Cape Town's historic castle.

Gen Veloso said today's agreement was "a positive contribution towards peace and stability around the (southern African) region." He, however, emphasised that the agreement would not affect the level of the ANC's presence in Mozambique. "It has nothing to do with what we are discussing," he said. "The essential point is that the territory will not serve as a base for violent action against South Africa."

Nzo: ANC Expulsion 'Lie'

*MB031228 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT
3 Mar 84*

[Text] The ANC of South Africa secretary general, Comrade Alfred Nzo, has pledged to continue the struggle to liberate Azania, despite some apparent hardships. Comrade Nzo spoke to newsmen in Harare on route to Zambia yesterday after holding discussions in the Mozambique capital, Maputo. The ANC secretary general pointed out that his organization appreciates the position in which some friendly countries find themselves in connection with aiding liberation movements in southern Africa. Referring to rumors that ANC members would be expelled from Mozambique and other countries with non-aggression pacts with racist South Africa, Comrade Nzo dismissed the story as a lie, because his organization is not yet aware of security arrangements made between the parties involved. He said Mozambique in particular has pledged to speak in favor of his organization as in the past.

Mozambique-USSR Relations Unchanged

*MB021726 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1722 GMT
2 Mar 84*

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 2, SAPA — The South African and Mozambique Governments in Cape Town today agreed on a final format for a non-aggression pact.

In a joint statement the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and the Mozambican minister of economic affairs in the presidency, General Jacinto Veloso, said that the final text of the agreement will be ready for signature at a date to be announced, "in the very near future."

The main thrust of the agreement was that neither state would act as a base for attacks launched against each other's territory and said that a joint security commission would be established to supervise the agreement's implementation.

The personal involvement of President Samora Machel and South African Prime Minister, Mr P.W. Botha, during the talks in Maputo and Cape Town had been "decisive in creating mutual understanding and the results achieved today."

At a press conference which followed the statement, Gen Veloso said a formula would be found for South Africans who had "for

some time been unable to use their properties (in Mozambique)" to be afforded the use of their Mozambican properties again.

The agreement would in no way affect Mozambique's relations with the Soviet Union because Mozambique "defends with tenacity its own interests" and had relations with all countries of the world regardless of "the orientation of their regimes."

When asked how he, as a representative of a government which had originated from the freedom struggle of a Marxist liberation organisation, would morally justify acting against another Marxist liberation organisation, such as the ANC, Gen Veloso said there was no need for such justifications as there were different conceptions of what Marxism was. For Mozambique, Marxism was a form of solving the problems.

Mr Botha was asked whether specific admissions had been made regarding the South African support for the Mozambican Resistance Movement, MNR. He said that no admissions had been made by either side regarding support for such movements. "our purpose was not to accuse each other. Our purpose was to free both countries from violence and achieve peace."

Opposition Party Spokesmen Comment

*MB050638 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 5 Mar 84*

[Text] The spokesman on foreign affairs for the Progressive Federal Party, Mr Colin Eglin, said in a radio program that the recent peace initiatives represented a major breakthrough in international relations. He said the breakthrough could hold many advantages for all the countries of southern Africa. Mr Eglin said that South Africa and Mozambique were at present showing the world that two countries of different ideological standings could work together for mutual benefit. He said the talks between the two countries could also have the significant effect on relations between South Africa and her neighbor, Zimbabwe.

Mr (Frank le Roux) of the Conservative Party said there was no doubt that the peace initiatives should be welcomed. He added that relations between South Africa and its neighbors should be strengthened. Mr (le Roux), however, also warned South Africans that they should not become overawed with the progress of the peace initiatives. He said caution should be exercised.

Mr (Brian Page) of the New Republic Party said South Africa's way back into the international community would be along a path in Africa. He said he believed that South Africa's talks with Mozambique had been made easier because of reforms that had taken place within South Africa. He said the international community had accepted the fact that South Africa was again ready to negotiate with its neighbors. Mr (Page) said there was no doubt that South Africa and Mozambique had something to offer each other.

Johannesburg Paper Says Mandela To Be Released*MB041214 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] Nelson Mandela is going to be released. That is according to a report in a Johannesburg Sunday newspaper. It says the countdown for the release of the imprisoned ANC leader has begun. Mandela is serving a life sentence for ANC activities at Cape Town's Pollsmoor Prison.

The paper says there has been a proposal from Transkei President Kaizer Mantsizima offering Mandela a home. It says Mandela was due to meet his wife, Winnie, yesterday to discuss the proposal. The paper says Mantsizima offered to give Mandela political asylum if he was released but the ANC refused the offer. Another Sunday newspaper quotes Minister of Justice Kobie Coetsee as saying Mandela's release is not being considered.

Minister Says 'Differentiation' Not Discrimination*MB031013 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] Mr Chris Heunis, the minister of constitutional development and planning, says discrimination merely on the grounds of race or color is unacceptable to the government. He was speaking in Parliament during a debate on a motion by Dr van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the opposition, and the motion called on the government to issue a declaration of intent on the removal of what he termed hurtful and unnecessary discrimination in the country. Mr Heunis said differentiating measures are nevertheless necessary to maintain an orderly society and provide certain groups with statutory protection. Differentiating measures, he said, should not be confused with discriminating measures.

Government Favors Autonomous Black Local Authorities*MB021426 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 2 Mar 84*

[Text] The minister of cooperation and development, Dr Koornhof, has emphasized that it is the sincere desire of Parliament that black local authorities should be autonomous. Speaking at the inauguration of the Soweto Town Council, Dr Koornhof said that the present stage of development and expertise of local authorities had been reached only after many years of trial and tribulation. The task of administering a city could never be underestimated, and the government was fully aware of the challenges that would face the new council on the social, economic, and local government levels.

Dr Koornhof said it was necessary that the local government dispensation affecting the urban black population should be fully implemented in the shortest possible time. This would present even greater challenges than had ever been faced by Pretoria, Johannesburg, or any other city in South Africa. Dr Koornhof announced that the Protea North housing scheme for Soweto, to be financed entirely by the private sector, had been approved in principle. It made provision for about 2,500 houses.

The mayor of Soweto, Mr Tshabalala, said at the inauguration that the country as a whole would benefit by declaring the Greater Soweto region a fully self-governing city-state. He said Greater Soweto would really be able to live up to expectations should it be given a greater say in its affairs. Mr Tshabalala added that housing and additional sources of income were among the most pressing needs. He said it was important that decisions on the future expansion of Soweto be taken in the immediate future, to provide for Soweto's natural growth over the next 50 years.

ZAMBIA**Financial Obligations to OAU Reportedly Settled***MB040433 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 3 Mar 84*

[Text] Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary (Peter Kapanda) has said Zambia has settled all her financial obligations to the OAU. Mr (Kapanda) said that the country has cleared all outstanding arrears in the organization, which include her subscription to the 1983-84 budget, the body's Liberation Committee requirements, as well as membership fees.

Foreign Affairs Minister of State Otema Musuka agreed with Mr (Kapanda) [words indistinct]. The permanent secretary explained that Zambia's arrears were as a result of the continental body's fluctuating annual budgetary allocation.

Interim Secretary General of the OAU Peter Onu told the current ministerial meeting taking place in Addis Ababa that the pan-African body is edging towards total (?paralysis) because [words indistinct] member states pay their fees. The OAU is owed (?43) million kwacha in arrears.

ZIMBABWE**Troops Said Committing Mass Killings in Matabeleland***MB040831 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 4 Mar 84*

[Text] In Zimbabwe, church sources in Bulawayo say the Army is committing mass killings and beating and starving 400,000 to 500,000 people in drought-stricken Matabeleland in an effort to stamp out opposition to the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe. On 3 February the government imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew in Matabeleland South to counter the activities of rebels and assert control.

A Catholic priest who works in the area, Father Wilson, said he knew of an incident during which soldiers beat 13 people senseless, threw them into an old well, and killed them with grenades that they tossed in on top of them. Father Wilson said he has eyewitness accounts of soldiers killing six young men in their village as a lesson to others not to aid dissidents.

His account matched a report to Parliament by the opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, on 5 February.

Food Shipments Reportedly Blocked

MB050537 Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English
4 Mar 83 p 6

[Text] Harare — Zimbabwean soldiers are blocking food shipments into curfew areas of southern Matabeleland and are assaulting people in large-scale round-ups of residents, people from the region said this week.

The curfew was ordered a month ago as part of the latest government attempt to suppress dissident guerrillas believed responsible for hundreds of robberies and killings since 1982.

Government officials have not commented on the anti-rebel operation, but interviews last week with refugees, farmers and security sources just outside the curfew zone indicated that it could be as violent as a similar operation in northern Matabeleland a year ago. During the operation church and foreign aid groups accused the army of torturing and murdering thousands of civilians.

The North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade is again the most heavily involved unit of the Zimbabwe National Army. It is supplemented by a recently-commissioned unit, the Presidential Guard, dubbed the 'Sixth Brigade' because its men are, like the Fifth Brigaders, armed with AK-47 assault rifles and trained by North Korean advisers.

A number of villagers said soldiers had beaten people indiscriminately with heavy wooden sticks.

In the first week of the curfew, one rural hospital treated 60 victims of such beatings, more than 50 percent of whom had broken limbs. A seven-year-old girl had an arm broken in several places.

Unlike last year's operation, nobody is questioned in a village or kraal. Instead people are herded into trucks and driven to barbed wire-enclosed interrogation centres run by the Fifth Brigade and the Central Intelligence Organisation [CIO]. Several thousand people have been sent to two such camps near Kezi and near Gwanda.

A source close to the military said injuries to the kidneys caused by beatings around the buttocks and back had caused a number of deaths.

Most of the dissidents the army is hunting are believed to have slipped out of the curfew zone about two weeks ago, moving to the north and east. But there has been no attempt by army or police to follow them.

The attack two weeks ago on five school teachers near Masvingo, 160 km east of the curfew area, may have been in retaliation for the government crackdown.

Most of the area's remaining white farmers have not been bothered but several are angry at what happens when they report sightings of dissidents to the army. Presidential Guard and Fifth Brigade troops often assault the workers who reported to the farmer in the first place.

"From a military point of view they are not trying to get information that will help them round up dissidents. They are just trying to brutalise people," a source close to the military said. "The only way this could solve anything is if every Matabele in the region is killed, because there is no way anyone associated with this kind of terror campaign will ever want to have anything to do with the government," he said.

The operation has spilled over the curfew boundaries on at least one occasion. Just after midnight last Monday, soldiers forced the entire black population of the non-curfew town of Gwanda out of their homes and told them to "run" to a football field 1 km away. Those who did not run fast enough were kicked or hit with rifle butts. Two Fifth Brigaders were arrested in connection with an assault on off-duty policemen during the operation.

Later that day more than 400 of Gwanda's 2,000 black residents were trucked to an interrogation camp at Bar 20 mine, 15 km away. While that was happening, a CIO officer arrested Mr Sikiwili Moyo, an opposition MP for Matabeleland and a close friend of opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Mr Moyo, 61, was released on Tuesday, barely able to walk and bruised over more than half his body. He said Fifth Brigade soldiers had assaulted him.